KCDX

賭博覇王伝 ゼロ ギャンブル鬼編 零 ZERO

6

福本伸行

KCDX3313

KC DELUXE

賭博覇王伝 零ゼロ ギャンブル鬼編

6

福本伸行

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賭博覇王伝 零ゼロ ギャンブル鬼編 ZERO

どっちが先に
宝に辿り着くか！
勝負!!

ZERO

NOBUYUKI FUKUMOTO PRESENTS

福本伸行作品

絶賛好評発売中!

賭博覇王伝 零　全8巻
賭博覇王伝 零 ギャン鬼編 ①～
賭博堕天録カイジ 全13巻
賭博堕天録カイジ 和也編 ①～
賭博黙示録カイジ 全13巻
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賭博覇王伝

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ゼロ ギャン鬼編

GYANKI

6

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NOBUYUKI FUKUMOTO PRESENTS

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NOBUYOKI FUKUMOTO PRESENTS

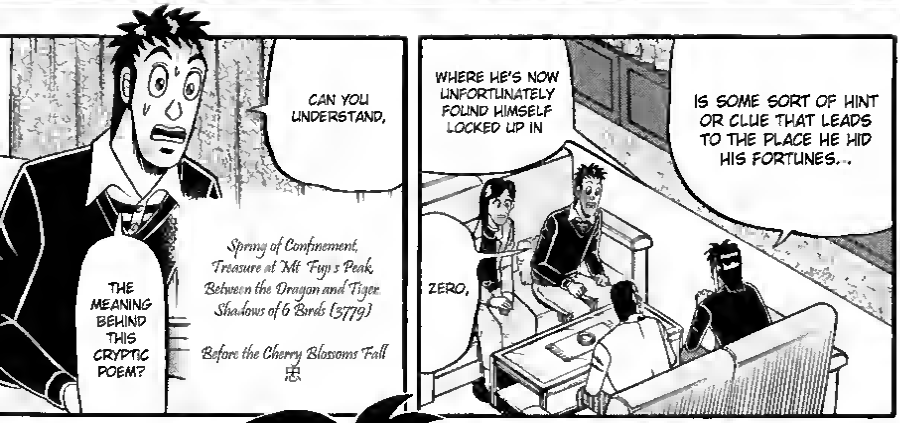
6

SO LET'S GO RESCUE HIM!
STILL ALIVE!
GRAND-PA'S...

Spring of Confinement,
Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak,
Between the Dragon and Tiger,
Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)
Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠

HE'S STILL ALIVE!

A SECRET FACILITY AT MT. FUJI'S PEAK THAT CAN CONFINE SOMEONE FOR 3 YEARS,
IS FRANKLY, A RIDICULOUS IDEA. PERHAPS IT'S POSSIBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT, BUT THERE'S NO WAY AN ORDINARY CIVILIAN WOULD BE ABLE TO BUILD SUCH A THING.
INSTEAD, WHAT'S AT THE TOP OF MT. FUJI...

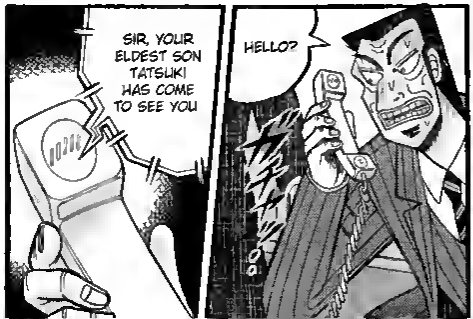

IS SOME SORT OF HINT OR CLUE THAT LEADS TO THE PLACE HE HID HIS FORTUNES...
WHERE HE'S NOW UNFORTUNATELY FOUND HIMSELF LOCKED UP IN
ZERO,
CAN YOU UNDERSTAND,
THE MEANING BEHIND THIS CRYPTIC POEM?
Spring of Confinement,
Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak,
Between the Dragon and Tiger,
Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)
Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠

WELL, IT'S STILL JUST A GUESS,
BUT I MIGHT UNDERSTAND ABOUT 60% OF IT...!
. . . . . .
GOO

President's Office
Mean-while,

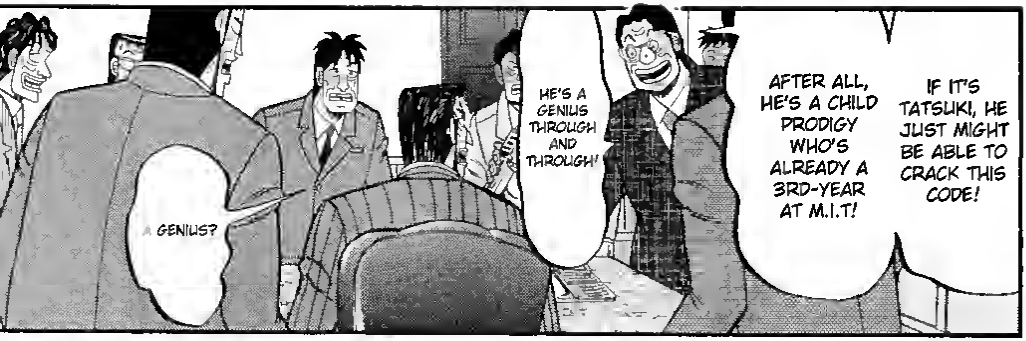
うーーん
Between the Dragon and Tiger Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)
Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠
Spring of Confinement, Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak

トゥルルル…


SIR, YOUR ELDEST SON TATSUKI HAS COME TO SEE YOU
HELLO?

CAN YOU MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF THIS?
NO, SIR.

HUH?
MR. PRESIDENT, THAT'S PERFECT!
WHAT?
TATSUKI'S HERE?


A GENIUS?
HE'S A GENIUS THROUGH AND THROUGH!
AFTER ALL, HE'S A CHILD PRODIGY WHO'S ALREADY A 3RD-YEAR AT M.I.T!
IF IT'S TATSUKI, HE JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO CRACK THIS CODE!

ガチャッ
LET HIM THROUGH!
ALRIGHT,
I CAN'T DENY THAT HE DOESN'T HAVE A GOOD HEAD ABOVE HIS SHOULDERS..
WELL...

A child-prodigy who's already a 3rd year student at M.I.T.
I HEARD EVERYTHING.
YO, POPS!

AND THE TREASURE HUNT
キキ・・・
ABOUT YUKICHI'S MONO-LOGUES,

・・・・・・
AND LET ME GUESS, YOU CAN'T FIGURE OUT JACK. AM I RIGHT?

HOW 'BOUT I LEND YOU A HAND?
キキ

KEE KEE KEE!
NY 58
Houoh Tatsuki (Age 13)

WHA?
RIGHT, MR. PRESIDENT? TATSUKI WILL BE A GREAT HELP FOR SURE!
YOU'LL BE A HUGE HELP!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE WERE HOPING FOR!
OHHH!
KEE KEE
どっ
MR. PRESIDENT, THIS IS NO TIME TO HESITATE!
NGHH ...!
やいの
やいの
やいの
I LOOKED INTO HIM,
AND YOU'LL NEVER GUESS BUT IT TURNS OUT THAT HE'S ACTUALLY,
THE RUMOURED,
SHE'S GOT THAT BOY, ZERO HELPING HER!
YOUR SISTER SAWAKO WILL TAKE THE ENTIRE FORTUNE FOR HERSELF!
IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING SOON,
EXACTLY!
KEE KEE!
UNDEFEATED GAMBLER OF THE UNDERWORLD!

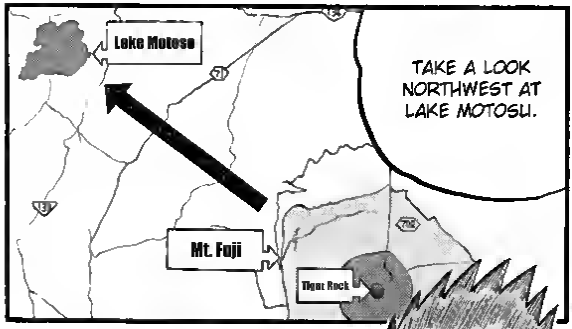
I'VE BEEN QUITE INTERESTED,
BY THOSE SECRET UNDER-GROUND GAMBLERS!
I HEAR SOME GUY NAMED SHIRUBE'S APPARENTLY THE BEST OF THE BEST,
AND HE'S CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN SOME RIDICULOUSLY HIGH-STAKES GAMBLE,
BUT THIS ZERO'S SUPPOSEDLY THE NEXT BEST GAMBLER, TRAILING CLOSE BEHIND!
KEE KEE...
I WANT TO SEE JUST HOW SMART,
JUST HOW TALENTED HE REALLY IS...
LET ME HELP YOU!
LET ME MAKE THIS CLEAR,
SO LET ME COMPETE AGAINST HIM, POPS.
I'M NOT GOING TO BE SPLIT-TING THE INHERIT-ANCE WITH YOU!

KEE KEE KEE
ARE YOU SURE?
WHA?
I DON'T GIVE TWO SHITS ABOUT THAT.
KEE KEE KEE
THE HOUOH FAMILY'S FORTUNES? ABSOLUTELY WORTHLESS!
THE ONLY THING OF REAL VALUE IN THIS WORLD IS INTELLECT!
SLAVE TO MONEY AND LIVING SUCH A SHALLOW LIFE.
OH POPS, OH POPS.
AND I'LL SHOW IT OFF,
TO THE TREASURE!
BY BEATING ZERO,
.....
AND I'VE ALREADY GOT PLENTY OF THAT!
NY

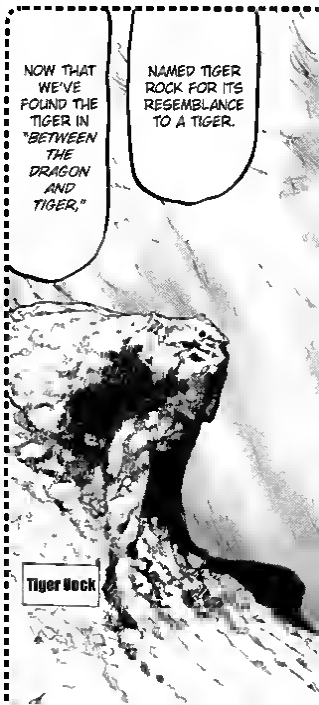
I'D LIKE NOTHING MORE THAN TO BE CALLED THE BEST MIND HUMANITY HAS TO OFFER!
F-
FINE!
IF YOU'RE REALLY FINE WITH NOT TAKING A SHARE...
EVEN IF I DON'T TAKE A CUT,
WITH YOU BEING MORE PREDISPOSED TO DISEASES AND OTHER HEALTH COMPLICATIONS DUE TO YOUR AGE,
I'LL EVENTUALLY OWN WHAT'S YOURS ONCE YOU DIE.
GOD, THIS DAMN SON OF MINE... I HATE HIS GUTS!
N-NOW, NOW, SIR
YOU CAN'T DENY THAT WE NEED TATSUKI'S HELP RIGHT NOW!
TATSUKI!
THAT'S A LOT YOU'RE BOASTING RIGHT NOW,
BUT...

KEE KEE
CAN YOU EVEN DECIPHER THIS!?
'COURSE I CAN!
THAT'S A GIVEN!
Spring of Confinement, Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak, Between the Dragon and Tiger, Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)
Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠
AT MT FUJI'S PEAK,
THIS PART ABOUT TREASURE,
おおっ
TO START OFF,
LOOK RIGHT HERE!
YOU CAN TAKE IT PRETTY MUCH WORD FOR WORD!
OR SOME OTHER CRAP LIKE THAT.
ISN'T AN ABSTRACT METAPHOR,

AT THE TOP OF MT. FUJI,
CLOSE TO THE CRATER, THERE'S A CERTAIN FAMOUS ROCK,
Ikuchi-Rock
Ware-Inki
Kengamine
Shouzui-in
Kinmeisui
Oomai-in
Tiger Rock
Fuji Sanmiki Hanno


Lake Motosu
TAKE A LOOK NORTHWEST AT LAKE MOTOSU.
Mt. Fuji
Tiger Rock

THE THING ABOUT LAKE MOTOSU IS


NOW THAT WE'VE FOUND THE TIGER IN "BETWEEN THE DRAGON AND TIGER,"
NAMED TIGER ROCK FOR ITS RESEMBLANCE TO A TIGER.
Tiger Rock

LEGEND HAS IT THAT A DRAGON WAS ONCE SIGHTED AT THE LAKE,
TO WARN THE PEOPLE OF AN EARTH-QUAKE.
AND THERE WE HAVE OUR DRAGON.
Lake Motosu
71
Tiger Rock
SO BETWEEN THE DRAGON AND TIGER AT MT. FUJI'S PEAK,
I'M GUESSING THAT SOMEWHERE IN THIS REGION,
To Lake Motosu
Kengomine
Tiger Rock
WOULD REFER TO SOMEWHERE AROUND KENGAMINE.
ARE NATURAL OR MAN-MADE STRUC-TURES,
WHICH IN THE WINTER,
WILL BE COVERED IN SNOW,
AND FORM 6 DISTINCT MOUNDS!

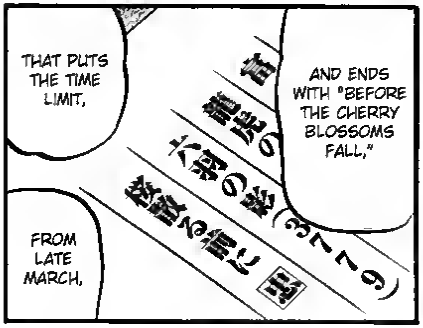
IN THE POEM,
SNOW? MOUNDS? WHAT?
ONE OF THE LINES HAS THE NUMBER 3779.
龍虎の
八羽の影（3779）
に
忠
MY THEORY IS THAT THIS REFERS TO THE SNOW...
IS 3776 METERS.
THE HEIGHT OF MT. FUJI.
IT'S SNOW!
SO WHERE DOES THE DIFFER-ENCE OF 3 COME FROM?
OF COURSE, THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE SNOW PILES HIGHER OR LESS THAN THAT,
BUT IN ANY CASE,
THE SHADOWS OF 6 BIRDS,
BETWEEN THE DRAGON AND TIGER AT THE TOP OF MT. FUJI,
REFERS TO THE SHADOWS CASTED BY 6 STRUCTURES AROUND KENGAMINE WHEN THEY'RE COVERED UNDERNEATH SNOW.
AND THOSE SHADOWS WILL EITHER POINT TOWARDS THE TREASURE,
OR THE NEXT HINT!

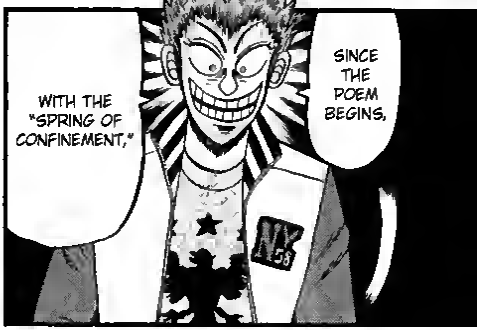
EITHER ONE, IT'LL BE THERE FOR SURE!
うーーん
BUT THE KEY IS,
YOU CAN'T SEARCH FOR IT ANY DAY OF THE YEAR!

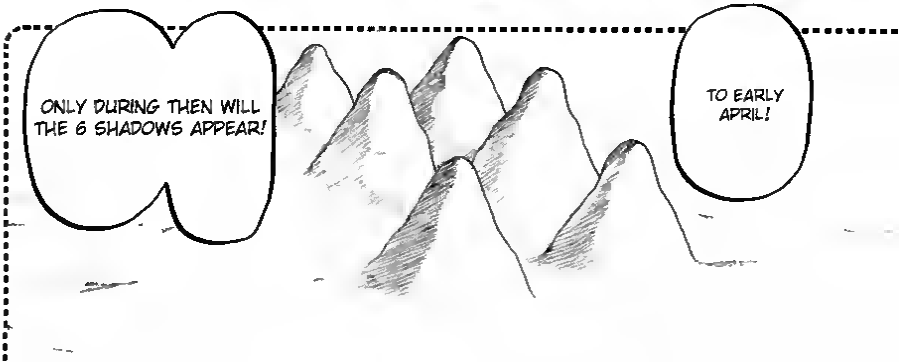
MY GUESS
SPRING OF CONFINEMENT
禁制の春
山頂に宝
TAKE A LOOK AT THE FIRST LINE
IT CAN ONLY BE FOUND AT A SPECIFIC TIME
WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
BUT IT COULD ALSO BE WRITTEN,
IS WRITTEN AS 禁制,
KINSEI (CONFINE-MENT),
IS THAT IT'S WRITTEN WITH THE WRONG KANJI
WELL, POPS?
SPRING OF BALANCE! (均整)
SO THE SPRING OF CONFINE-MENT (禁制) BECOMES,
AS 均整!

DID THAT LIGHT A BULB IN YOUR HEAD?
A DAY THAT OCCURS TWICE A YEAR,
ONCE IN THE SPRING,
AND ONCE IN THE FALL...
WHA...?
AHH!

EXACTLY!
WHEN DAY AND NIGHT LAST THE SAME AMOUNT OF TIME?
YOU MEAN THE EQUILUX!?

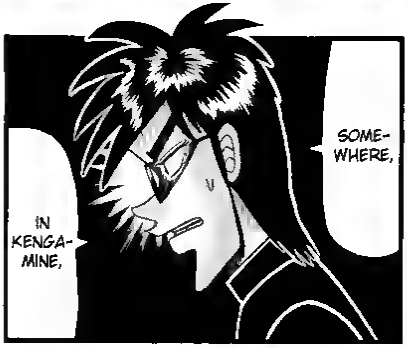

THAT PUTS THE TIME LIMIT,
AND ENDS WITH "BEFORE THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS FALL,"
FROM LATE MARCH,

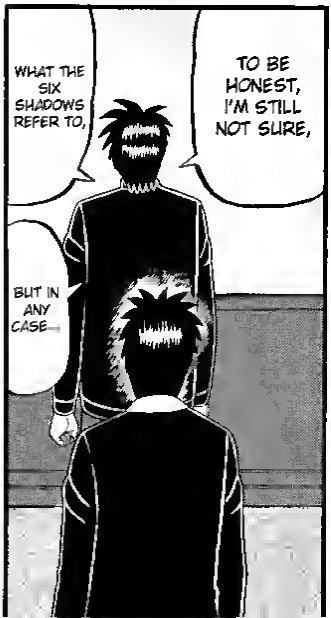

WITH THE "SPRING OF CONFINEMENT,"
SINCE THE POEM BEGINS,


ONLY DURING THEN WILL THE 6 SHADOWS APPEAR!
TO EARLY APRIL!

AHH!
BUT HOW?
DUNNO,
I HAVEN'T QUITE FIGURED OUT THE REASON FOR THE TIME LIMIT,
BUT WE WON'T MAKE ANY PROGRESS UNTIL WE GO!
TO THE TOP OF MT. FUJI!
B-BUT THAT'S...
THE EQUILUX?
ON THE EQUILUX!
AH!
THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW!
2021 22

YEAH...
SO THEN... YOU'RE GOING TO CLIMB MT. FUJI? THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW?


SOME-WHERE,
IN KENGA-MINE,

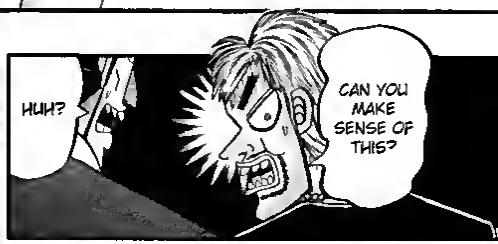

TO BE HONEST, I'M STILL NOT SURE,
WHAT THE SIX SHADOWS REFER TO,
BUT IN ANY CASE...

To Lake Motosu
BETWEEN LAKE MOTOSU AND TIGER ROCK LIES THE NEXT HINT!
Kengamine
Kazuchi Rock
Shinnai-in
Daisan-in
Tiger Rock
Sengendake
Kenogotake

I'LL ONLY BE ABLE TO MAKE FURTHER HEADWAY BY CLIMBING UP THERE!
I DON'T HAVE A GOOD GRASP ON THE SIGHTS ON MT. FUJI!
OH...
I'LL BE CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN WITH JUST MY PARTNERS.
BUT YOU AND YOUR MOTHER SHOULD STAY HERE.
OH,
AH...
I'LL DEFINITELY FIND THE NEXT HINT OR WHATEVER IS HIDING UP THERE!
DON'T WORRY,
.....
Ooo

Spring of Confinement, Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak, Between the Dragon and Tiger, Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)

Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠

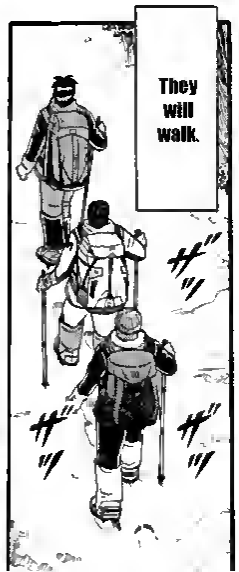


Chapter 41 Hike
20xx,
March 21
The day
of the
equilux.

Spring of Confinement, Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak, Between the Dragon and Tiger, Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)

Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠

The race to solve Kijurou's message begins!



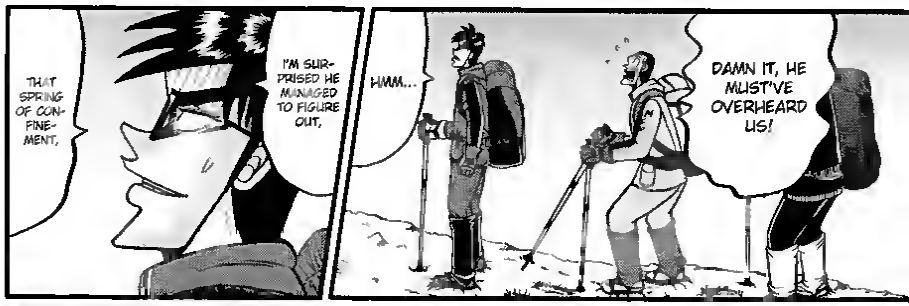
HUFF...
Junko
Junko
I CAN DO THIS..
JUST.. HUFF HUFF. KEEP AT IT!
IF WE CAN RESCUE,
THE FOUNDER OF HOUJOU CORP.
HOW MUCH D'YA RECKON WE'LL GET AS COMPEN-SATION?
EVEN AT THE VERY LEAST ..

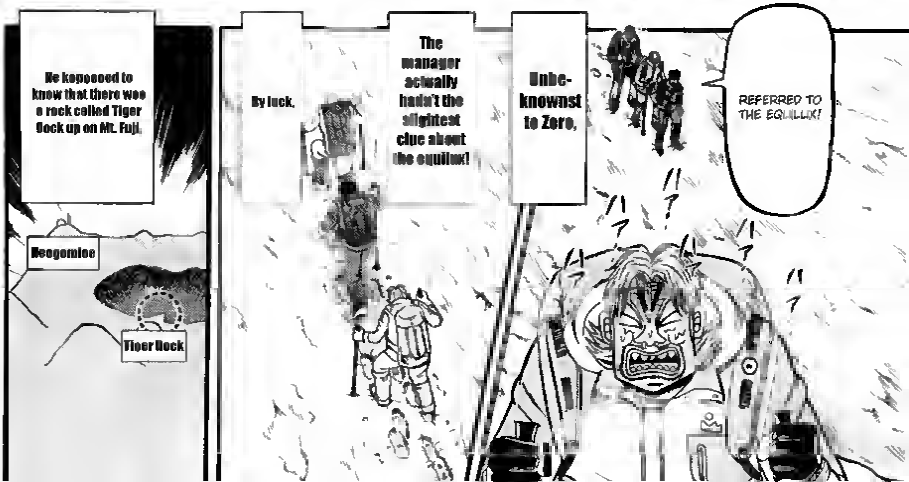
10 BILLION YEN..
SHOULDN'T BE TOO MUCH TO ASK...
RIGHT?
R-RIGHT, ZERO...?
WHO KNOWS
W-WELL, DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT IT!
I'LL DEFINITELY MAKE THAT GEEZER COUGH UP...
10 BILLION YEN!
HUFF HUFF
IF EVERY STEP THAT I TAKE,
MEANS A STEP CLOSER TO 10 BILLION YEN ..
THEN THIS MUCH PAIN IS NOTHING!
NOTHING AT ALL!

★10,910,000,000
JUST THINK...!
THAT'S MORE THAN 10 TIMES THE AMOUNT OF MONEY WE HAVE RIGHT NOW!
ハァ
SO MUCH MONEY!
おおおおお
SHUT UP!
I NEED IT!
BUT I STILL WANT IT!
SO MUCH YOU CAN'T EVEN EVER SPEND IT ALL..
SO MUCH..
ハァ
CHIN-
CHINCHIRO, CHINCHIRO-
DOESN'T MATTER WHAT ANYONE SAYS ABOUT ME..
JUST SHUT UP AND KEEP WALKING!
IS MONEY THE ONLY THING YOU CAN EVER TALK ABOUT!?
HAHA

AHH!
NGHH...!
SO I'M GUESSING THEY'RE OTHER PEOPLE TRYING TO JOIN IN ON THE TREASURE HUNT.
W-WHAT'RE ALL THESE PEOPLE DOING UP HERE!?
WELL, YUKICHI'S MONOLOGUES HAVE BECOME A PRETTY WELL-KNOWN TOPIC ON THE INTERNET.
くわっ
THOSE MONEY-GRUBBING SONS OF BITCHES!
AHHH!
THAT'S MY MONEY UP THERE! THEY'VE GOT NO RIGHT TAKING IT!

WHAT THE!?
THAT GUY OVER THERE...
IS THAT IDOL MANAGER,
WHO LOST TO ZERO A COUPLE DAYS AGO!
!?
!?
!?
!?


DAMN IT, HE MUST'VE OVERHEARD US!
HMM...
I'M SURPRISED HE MANAGED TO FIGURE OUT,
THAT SPRING OF CONFINEMENT,


REFERRED TO THE EQUILUX!
Unbeknownst to Zero,
The manager actually hadn't the slightest clue about the equilux!
By luck,
He happened to know that there was a rock called Tiger Rock up on Mt. Fuji.
Hoegomine
Tiger Rock

ヒュウ～～
And were oblivious to the true meaning of the "Spring of Confinement."
Only focused on the Tiger Rock atop Mt. Fuji.
The other hikers too,
And coincidentally decided to climb Mt. Fuji on the same day as Zero!
ヒュウ～～
THE OTHERS ARE GONNA BEAT US TO THAT NEXT CLUB!
IF WE DON'T,
IT'S FINE, SUEZAKI.
ZERO! WE'VE GOTTA HURRY!
That the line meant to search for the treasure sometime around spring.
They could only think.
AFTER ALL, IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A CODED-WILL SENT TO ONLY HIS CHILDREN.
I'M SURE IT'LL BE SOMETHING ONLY KIJUROU'S CLOSE RELATIVES COULD MAKE SENSE OF.
EVEN IF THEY FIND THE HINT,

URP!
IF WE HAVE THE CHOICE, IT'S BETTER TO BE THERE FIRST THAN LAST!
YOU NEVER KNOW!
B-BUT!
SO EVEN IF THEY DO BEAT US TO IT, I HIGHLY DOUBT THEY'LL BE ABLE TO-
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
I'M... I'M FINE.
Z-ZERO!
ケロ!
WHA!
CAN'T YOU SEE ZERO'S NOT FEELING WELL!? IT MUST BE ALTITUDE SICKNESS!
YOU JUST STAY QUIET!
C'MON, ZERO! WE GOTTA GET GOING!

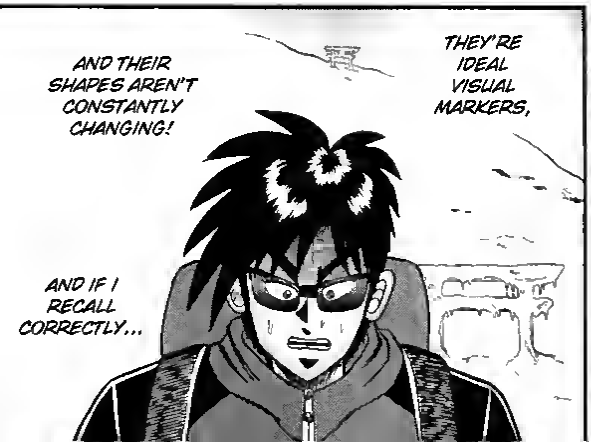
SORRY, ZERO...
LET'S KEEP WALKING
ZERO...
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE FINE?
.. YEAH, I'M FINE
ヨロ...
SHADOWS OF 6 BIRDS...
.....
I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT THAT LINE MEANS...
SHADOWS OF 6 BIRDS...
ヒュウ
ヒュ～
COULD IT POSSIBLY REFER TO 6 HILLS,
THAT CASTS A CERTAIN SHADOW,
WHEN COVERED IN SNOW AROUND THIS TIME OF THE YEAR?
BUT...

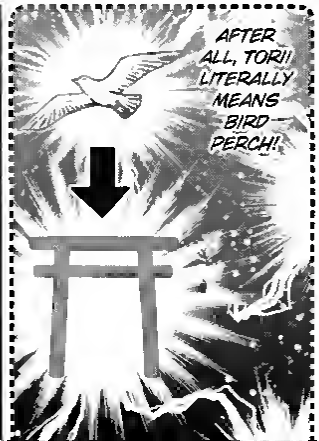
THE SHAPES WOULD CHANGE!
IT'D BE TOO INCONSISTENT!
AND HOW STRONG THE WINDS WERE AND WHICH WAY THEY BLEW,
DEPENDING ON HOW MUCH SNOW FELL,
THAT WOULD CHANGE YEAR AFTER YEAR!
AND EVEN THOUGH I FIGURED OUT THAT SPRING OF CONFINEMENT REFERS TO THE EQUILUX...
IT'D BE TOO HARD TO USE AS A VISUAL MARKER TO A CLUE!
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE LIMITED TO THE EQUILUX?
WHY THE EQUILUX?
IF THE 6 SHADOWS OF BIRDS REALLY REFERRED TO SHADOWS CASTED BY 6 SNOW-MOUNDS...

AND YET IT IS!
THERE WOULDN'T!
THERE'D BE NO NEED TO RESTRICT IT TO THE SPRING EQUILUX!
Past the 8th station
Past the 8th station
WHAT DOES THAT SAY ABOUT THE TRUE MEANING OF THE SHADOWS OF 6 BIRDS THEN...?
ZERO!
WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
THE TORII GATES LOCATED AT THE TOP OF MT. FUJI ALONG THE YOSHIDA ROUTE!
AT LAST!
I SEE IT!
.....

TORII...
BETWEEN THE DRAGON AND TIGER, SHADOWS OF 6 BIRDS (3779)...

AHH!!!
COULD IT BE...
THE SHADOWS REFER TO THE TORII GATES' SHADOWS...!?


AND THEIR SHAPES AREN'T CONSTANTLY CHANGING!
THEY'RE IDEAL VISUAL MARKERS,
AND IF I RECALL CORRECTLY...


AFTER ALL, TORII LITERALLY MEANS BIRD-PERCH!

I'M SURE IF YOU COUNT ALL THE TORII GATES AT THE TOP OF MT. FUJI UP,
ONE AT SENGEN-TAISHA, ONE AT GINMEISUI, ONE AT GOTENBA-GUCHI, AND ANOTHER AT FUJI SHRINE...
THERE'S GOTTA BE AT LEAST SIX!
WHAT'S WRONG?
BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE...
EVEN IF WE HIKE UP...

YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE SENSE OF ALL 6 SHADOWS FROM THE GROUND!
THE TORII GATES ARE SPACED TOO FAR APART!
IT'S POINTLESS!
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY TO UNDERSTAND,
YOU HAVE TO LOOK AT THEM FROM ABOVE! YOU HAVE TO!
DAMN IT!
THE NEXT HINT THE TORII GATES POINT TO!

AHH!
WHAT THE...?
HOUOH
AHHH!
HOUOH AS IN THE HOUOH CORP?
WAIT,
HOUOH...?
AGHH!
ZERO! THOSE MUST BE PEOPLE WORKING FOR HOUOH CORP'S PRESIDENT!
WHAT A WASTE OF TIME AND EFFORT...!
LOOK AT THOSE IDIOTS HIKING ALL THE WAY UP...
KEE KEE

バラバラバラバラバラバラバラバラバラバラ

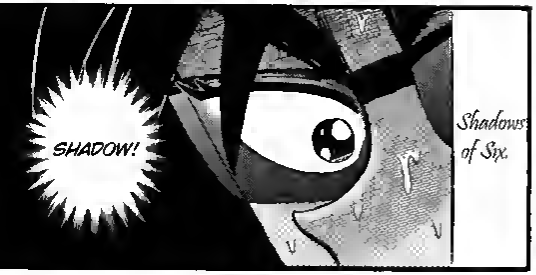
IS THAT...
THE ONE CALLED ZERO ..?
HMM?
KEE KEE KEE
I DIDN'T THINK HE'D BE THIS STUPID!
HEH HEH... LOOKS LIKE I OVERESTI-MATED HIM...

Chapter 46 True Meaning

バラ..
MAKE SURE,
TO VIDEOTAPE
AND PHOTO-GRAPH.
KEE KEE
バラ..
バラ..
バラ..
バラ..
ZERO!
ZERO!
YOU SEE BELOW!
ALL THE TORII GATES,
W-WHAT?
POPS,
ROGER!
ZERO!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?
ZERO!
ZERO!
REALLY!?
IT SOMEHOW FEELS LIKE WE'VE WON ALREADY.

ARE YOU CRAZY!?
WHAT!?
IF YOU HAVE ALTITUDE SICKNESS, WE REALLY SHOULD GO BACK DOWN
DO YOU WANT TO GO DOWN?
WE'RE THIS CLOSE TO THE TOP AND YOU WANNA GO BACK DOWN!?
WHAT THE HELL CAN I DO IF I WENT UP ALONE? I NEED ZERO TO BE THERE TOO!
WHA!
THEN GO CLIMB IT YOURSELF!
HMPH!
GOD KNOWS I CAN'T UNDER-STAND JACK!
HE'S THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN FIGURE OUT THE CLUE!

M
MIELT



Shadows of Six.

Spring of Confinement, Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak, , Between the Dragon and Tiger,

AHH!
A-
The colossal shadow of Mt. Fuji that can only be seen on a clear day!
HOLY CRAP!
NOW THAT'S SOMETHING TO REMEMBER!
NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO BE DIS-TRACTED!
NONONO NONO!
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO GO DOWN!
YES,
WE HAVE TO HURRY UP AND FIND THAT CLUE...!
MT. FUJI'S SHADOW!

Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)

**"MAKE PEOPLE CRY" IS A POSSIBLE WAY TO READ 3779. IT'S WORDPLAY BASED ON THE POPULAR MNEMONIC TO MT. FUJI'S HEIGHT, 3776M.

THE SIX BIRDS,
WHAAA!?
THE TRUE MEANING BEHIND SHADOWS OF 6 BIRDS!
OR EVEN THE TORII GATES!
AREN'T REFERRING TO ANY SNOW MOUNDS,
IT REFERS TO THE TIME!
WAS ALSO KNOWN AS THE HOUR OF THE BIRD!
THE EVENING HOUR OF 6,
WHEN THEY STILL USED THE OLD TIME SYSTEM,
BACK IN THE EDO PERIOD,
HUH!?
AND SO..
22
18
17
16
酉
申
戌
五
六
七

TO FIND THE NEXT HINT...
IT'S THE SHADOW DURING THE HOUR OF THE BIRD WE HAVE TO LOOK AT!
HUH?
BUT...
WHA?
Spring of Confinement,
Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak,
Between the Dragon and Tiger,
Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)
Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠
THE MEANING BEHIND THAT POEM,
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU MEAN?
IN OTHER WORDS,
IS THAT THE TREASURE IS AT MT. FUJI'S PEAK DURING THE HOUR OF THE BIRD!
BUT BY MT. FUJI'S PEAK,
IT'S NOT REFERRING TO THE ACTUAL PEAK, BUT INSTEAD...

THE SHADOW'S PEAK!
THE TREASURE IS AT THE TOP OF MT. FUJI'S SHADOW!
THAT'S WHY...

WE HAVE TO GO BACK DOWN!
AHHH!
SO THEN...
IT'S SOME-WHERE OVER THERE!
NO, BUT WAIT...
WHAT ABOUT THAT DRAGON AND TIGER STUFF?
I'M SURE,
THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER THINGS
THAT SYMBOLIZE THE DRAGON AND TIGER.
AND THE CORRECT ONES WILL HAVE WHERE MT. FUJI'S SHADOW POINTS TO IN BETWEEN!
OHHH!
THAT'S AMAZING, ZERO!
AND RIGHT NOW, WE'RE THE ONLY ONES TO HAVE REALIZED IT!
THIS IS OUR CHANCE!
NGHH...

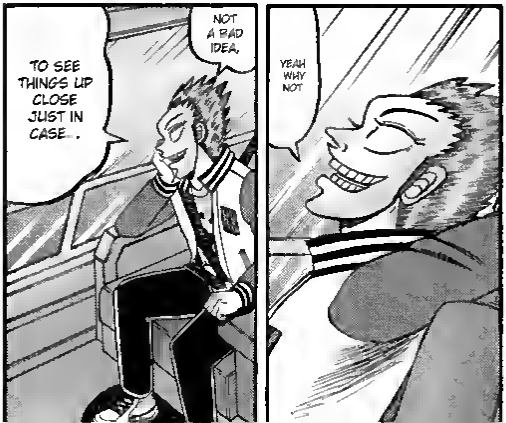
どどどどど～
おおお
DOWN WE GOOOO OOOO!
っ!
ヒュウ
The other fortune-seekers continued the ardooos climb...
Without the slightest clue.
ヒュウ
ペチャッ

They continued to wander aimlessly at Mt. Fuji's peak...!
WHERE...
ヒュウ
WHERE IS IT!?
ヒュウ
Pointlessly walking themselves to exhaustion!
GAHH...
TIGER ROCK!?
WHERE'S THAT DAMNED,
AHHH!
IT'D BE IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL WHERE TIGER R-
WITH THIS MUCH SNOW,
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
ヒュウ

カチーン
AHHH!
THE BOSS IS FROZEN STIFF!
HE. KINDA LOOKS LIKE TIGER ROCK THIS WAY, ACTUALLY.
CLATTER CLATTER CLATTER CLATTER CLATTER

TATSUKI, WE'VE FINISHED TAKING ALL THE NECCESSARY VIDEO FOOTAGE.
DO YOU WANT TO LAND AND SEE THE SIGHTS WHILE WE'RE HERE?
HMM...

バラ
バラ
バラ
BOSS!
BOSS!
ガチ
ガチ
ガチ

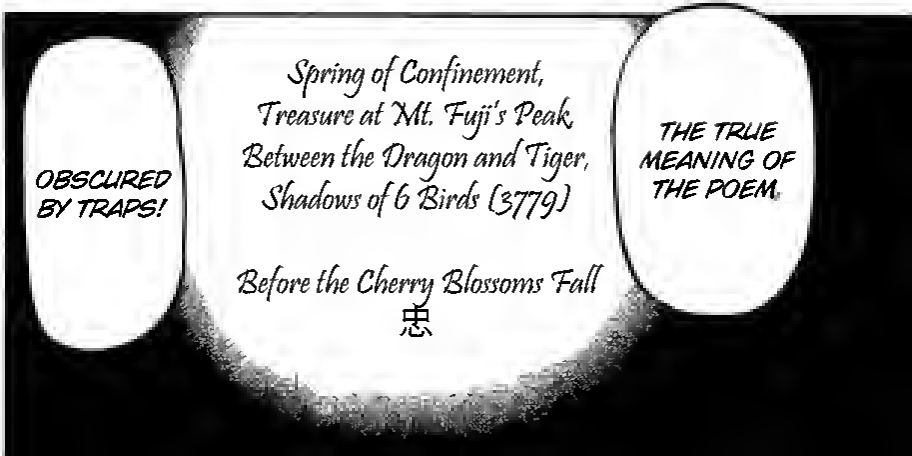

TO SEE THINGS UP CLOSE JUST IN CASE...
NOT A BAD IDEA.
YEAH WHY NOT

HM?
HE'S ALREADY HEADING BACK DOWN!
HUH?
Ooo
HE MUST'VE REALIZED HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE OUT ANYTHING UNLESS HE'S ON A HELICOPTER!
HAHA, DID HE GIVE UP ALREADY?
HA HA HA!
Between the Dragon and Tiger, Shadow of 6 Birds (3779)
MT. FUJI'S SHADOW!

SHADOW OF 6 BIRDS...!?
SHADOW!?
THE 6TH HOUR OF THE EVENING!
WASN'T THERE AN HOUR OF THE BIRD UNDER THE OLD TIME SYSTEM?
WAIT A SEC!
SO THEN THE TREASURE AT MT. FUJI'S PEAK IS...
ACTUALLY THE SHADOW'S PEAK?
THE SHADOW AT THE HOUR OF THE BIRD...?
?
THEN... THE SHADOW OF 6 BIRDS REFERS TO...

HMM?
AHHH!
EAST!
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
WHAT?
NOW!
DON'T LAND AT THE TOP! TURN THE CHOPPER AROUND!
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER!
JUST HURRY!
WHAT?
TO WHERE THE TIP OF MT. FUJI'S SHADOW IS POINTING!

DAMN IT!
THEY TURNED AROUND!
LOOKS LIKE THEY FIGURED OUT,
AND THEY'RE HEADED EAST TOWARDS THE SHADOW


OBSCURED BY TRAPS!
Spring of Confinement, Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak, Between the Dragon and Tiger, Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)
Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠
THE TRUE MEANING OF THE POEM

QUICKLY!
QUICKLY!
QUICKLY!
AHHHH!

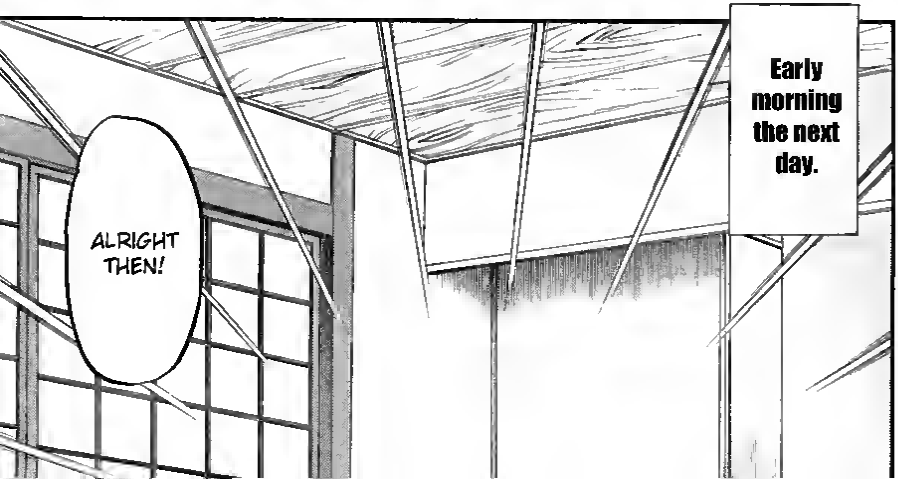
THEY TOO MUST'VE REALIZED...
WHAT?
THEY PROBABLY FIGURED IT OUT.
ZERO! THE HELICOPTER'S GOING THE OTHER WAY TOO!

AHHH!
BUT AT THE TIP OF MT. FUJI'S SHADOW!
THAT THE REAL TREASURE ISN'T AT THE TOP OF MT. FUJI,
HAHA...
THEY'LL GET THERE FIRST!
THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN BEAT A CHOPPER!
NO MATTER HOW FAST WE GO BACK DOWN,
THAT MEANS WE'RE SCREWED!
B-BUT...
SIMPLY BY FLYING OVER IT.
THOSE GUYS CAN EASILY SEE WHERE THE TIP OF MT. FUJI'S SHADOW POINTS TO.
IT'LL BE NIGHT IN A FEW HOURS, SO I'D ASSUME THEY'LL WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW TO START A THOROUGH SEARCH.
DON'T WORRY.
B-BUT

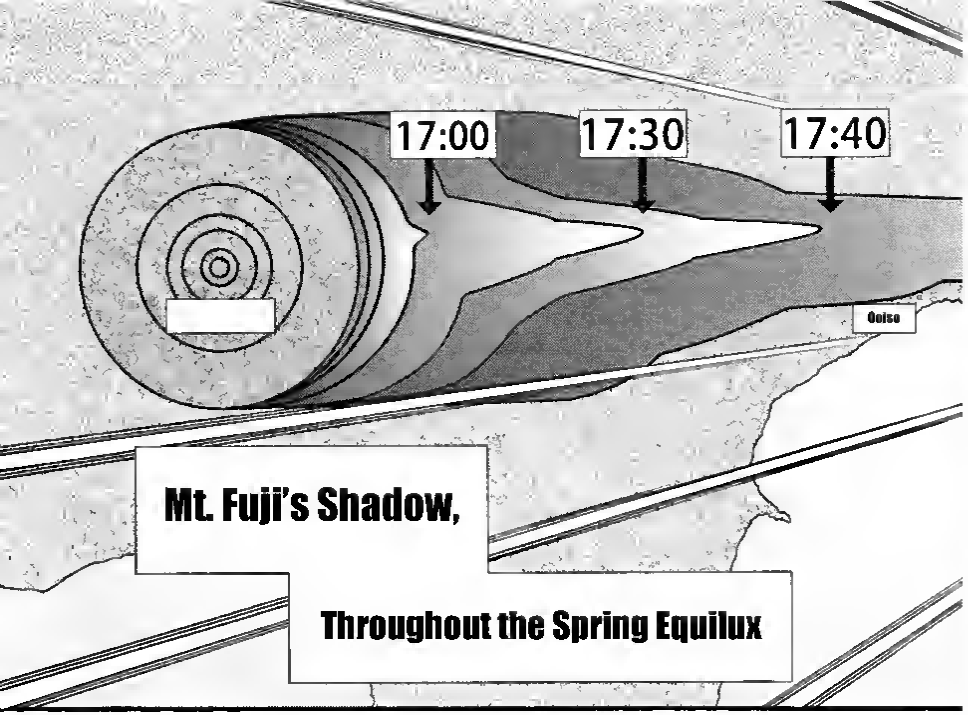
WHEREAS WE STILL DON'T HAVE A CLUE!
EVEN IF THEY DON'T START LOOKING THERE UNTIL TOMORROW,
WE'RE STILL BEHIND! THEY'VE GOT THE UPPER HAND!
I'VE GOT THAT POINT COVERED TOO.
AS LONG AS I KNOW THE HEIGHT OF MT. FUJI,
AND THE ANGLE OF THE SUN DURING THE HOUR OF THE BIRD ON THE SPRING EQUILUX,
I CAN CALCULATE JUST HOW FAR AND WHERE EXACTLY MT. FUJI'S SHADOW WILL STRETCH TO,
THROUGH-OUT THE DAY!
SO REST ASSURED!
WE CAN FIND THE PLACE WITHOUT LOOKING DIRECTLY AT THE SHADOW.
OH...
SO LET'S FOCUS ON WALKING BACK DOWN.
THE REST WILL COME LATER...

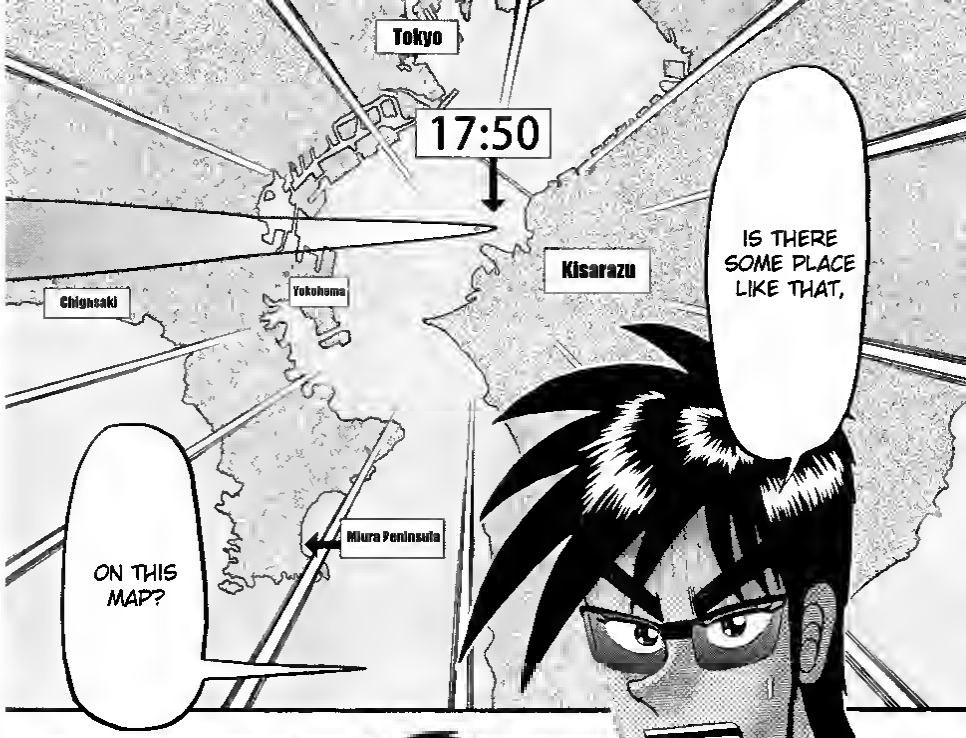
ONCE WE'RE BACK AT THE LODGE!
いづみや
いづみや
AHHHH!
AWW YEAH!
THIS IS...
MMM!
GOOD!
SO FREAKIN'

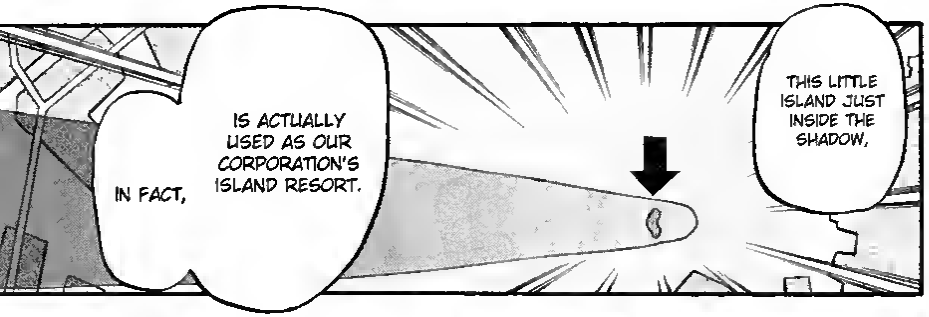
ZERO~

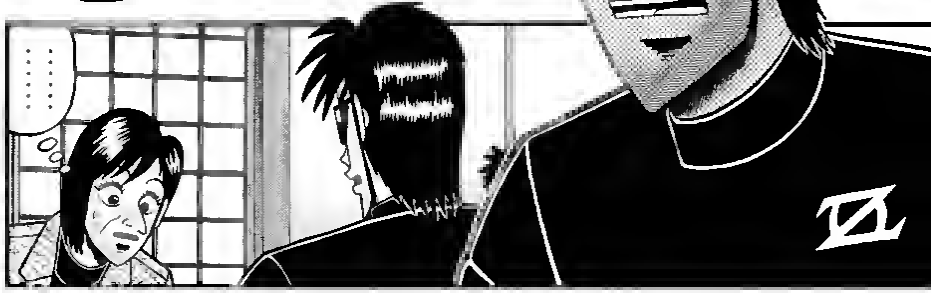

Early morning the next day.
ALRIGHT THEN!

I'VE CALCULATED JUST HOW FAR,
MT. FUJI'S SHADOW WILL STRETCH TO DURING THE EQUILUX!
AT ITS FARTHEST, THE SHADOW GOES ALL THE WAY TO...
KISARAZU CITY.
THAT FAR!?
IN CHIBA PREFECTURE!
MA'AM, I WANT YOU AND YOUR SON TO TAKE A CLOSE LOOK AT THIS MAP.
AND TELL ME WHATEVER COMES TO MIND.
I HAVE HERE WITH ME A FIGURE OF MT. FUJI'S SHADOW SUPERIMPOSED,
ONTO A NORMAL MAP.
ANYTHING AT ALL.
FOR EXAMPLE
SOME SORT OF VILLA,
OR RESORT,
RELATED TO HOUOH CORP.


17:00
17:30
17:40
Oeiso
Mt. Fuji's Shadow,
Throughout the Spring Equilux


Tokyo
17:50
Kisarazu
Chigasaki
Yokohama
Miura Peninsula
ON THIS MAP?
IS THERE SOME PLACE LIKE THAT,


IN FACT,
IS ACTUALLY USED AS OUR CORPORATION'S ISLAND RESORT.
THIS LITTLE ISLAND JUST INSIDE THE SHADOW,

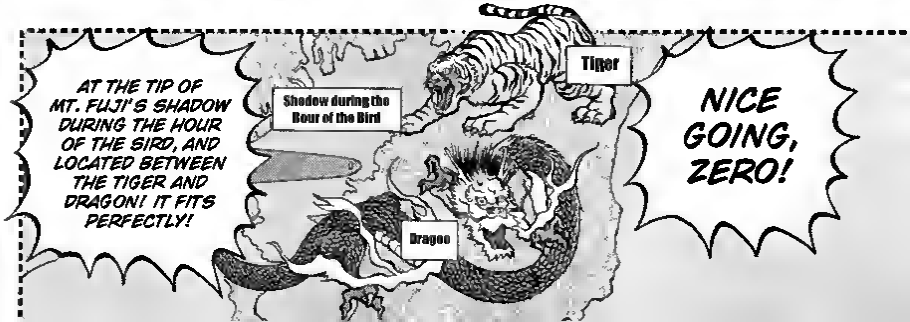


HM?
PERFECT!
I'VE ALREADY LOOKED INTO THE AREA AROUND THERE
I SEE.
THE ISLAND IS EVEN COMMONLY KNOWN AS HOUOH-ISLAND THESE DAYS...

HERE, AT THE FARTHEST TIP OF THE SHADOW JUST BEFORE KISARAZU!
THERE IS!
AH!

Houoh Island Resort
AND I'VE FOUND TWO PLACES WITH TIGER AND DRAGON IN THEIR NAMES,
Torohoehi
Rouryuuji
WHICH JUST SO HAPPENS TO HAVE,

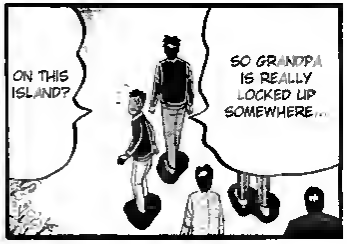
*TORA=TIGER, RYUU=DRAGON


AT THE TIP OF MT. FUJI'S SHADOW DURING THE HOUR OF THE SIRD, AND LOCATED BETWEEN THE TIGER AND DRAGON! IT FITS PERFECTLY!
Shadow during the Hour of the Bird
Tiger
Dragon
NICE GOING, ZERO!

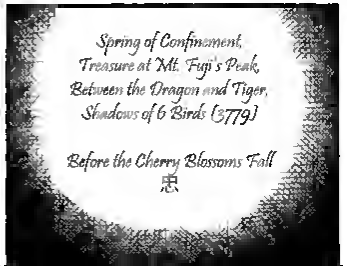
YES, THE LIKELIHOOD IS QUITE HIGH.
I MEAN, WHERE KIJUROU IS LOCKED UP!
THIS IS DEFINITELY WHERE THE TREAS-
ZERO!
ブロロロ...
LET'S HEAD TO CHIBA!
NOW THEN,
ザザザ...
木更津フェリ
フェリー乗り場
AND ONWARDS TO HOUOH ISLAND!

WE'RE HERE!
WE'RE HERE!
WE'RE HERE!
Houoh Island Resort

IT'S ALL IN HIS MESSAGE
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS WHERE EXACTLY, ZERO?


ON THIS ISLAND?
SO GRANDPA IS REALLY LOCKED UP SOMEWHERE...

TO PINPOINT AN EXACT LOCATION...
THE PARTS THAT I HAVEN'T USED YET,


Spring of Confinement,
Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak,
Between the Dragon and Tiger,
Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)
Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠

AHH!
HAHA!

AS YOU CAN SEE,
THAT'S OUR CLUE TO FINDING WHERE YOUR GRANDPA IS BUT,
AND THE LINE, "BEFORE THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS FALL."
IS THE NUMBER 3779,

*THE NAME HOUOH ISLAND IS SPELLED WITH THE KANJI FOR CHERRY BLOSSOMS

TOLD YA, POPS.
NGHH!
TOLD YA AUNT SAWAKO AND THE PEOPLE ON HER SIDE WOULD COME HERE SHORTLY AFTER US
ゆら…
SO YOU'VE COME!
ﾆﾆﾆﾆ…

NAOKI, WHO'S THIS?
KEE KEE KEE
ZERO,
ZERO,
ZERO!
KEE KEE KEE
HE'S MY COUSIN TATSUKI.
KEE KEE
AS HE IS UNPLEASANT.
BUT HE'S AS SMART,
BUT HE'S ALREADY A 3RD YEAR AT M.I.T...
HE'S THE SAME AGE AS I AM.
NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY...

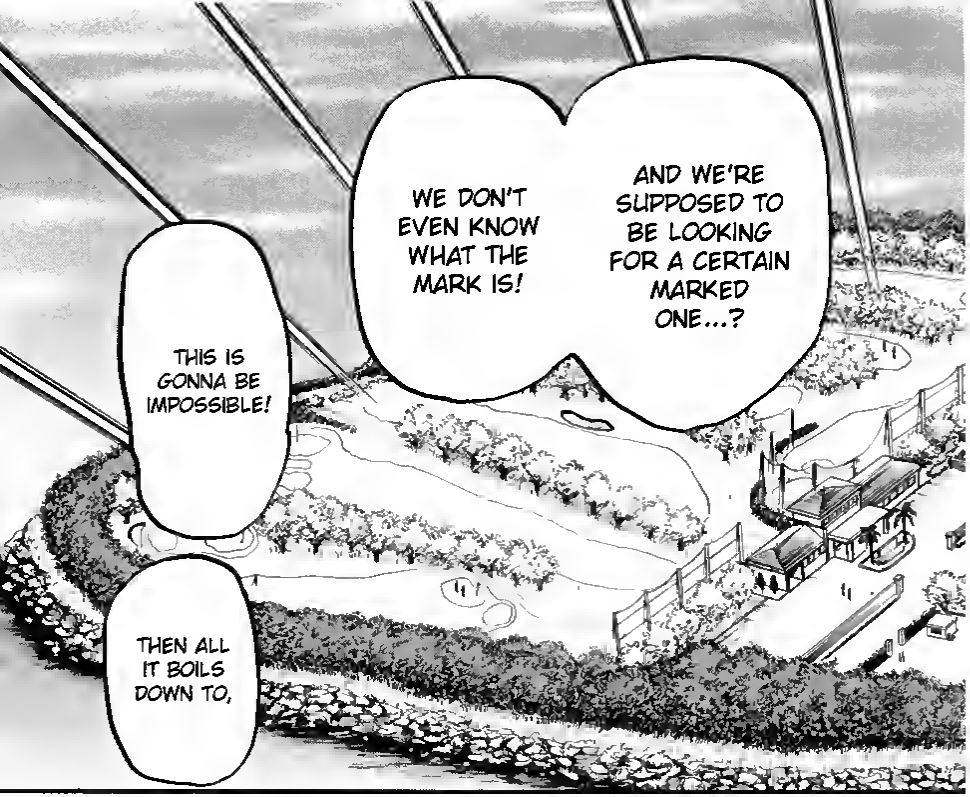
LET'S HAVE A CONTEST, ZERO!
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY,
I JUST CAN'T EVER GET MAD AT YOU.
WHEN I TAKE A LOOK AT THAT DUMB MUG AND LISTEN TO THAT EQUALLY DUMB VOICE,
.....
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?
WHAT?
A CONTEST TO SEE WHICH OF US WILL FIND THE TREASURE FIRST!
YOU'D BE IN THE LEAD!
HOW YOU WERE THE ONE TO FIRST REALIZE THE POEM REFERRED NOT TO MT. FUJI BUT ITS SHADOW,
IF WE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT,
BUT I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW
KEE KEE
.....
Oo.

IT'LL BE ME NEXT!
I'LL BE THE ONE TO FIGURE OUT
THE MEANING BEHIND THE REST OF THE POEM,
HEY YOU!
AND EVENTUALLY, THE TREASURE AS WELL!
AND FIND THE NEXT HINT!
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING UP ON THAT TREE!?
THERE'S NO WAY THE HINT OR THE ACTUAL TREASURE,
WOULD BE UP ON THE TREE!
MY FATHER MUST'VE PLANNED THIS OUT YEARS BEFORE THAT TREE WAS EVEN THERE!
THINK, YOU IDIOT, THINK!

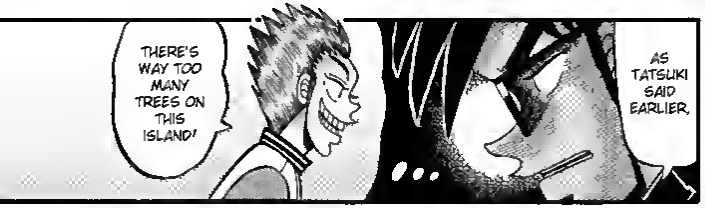
KEE KEE
YES, SIR!
YES, SIR!
THE HINT IS FAR LIKELIER TO BE HIDDEN BELOW! SO LOOK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE TREES!
I WONDER ABOUT THAT!
THERE'S WAY TOO MANY TREES ON THIS ISLAND!
MEANS THAT HE SHOULD SEARCH EACH AND EVERY CHERRY BLOSSOM TREES HERE BUT...
MY POPS SEEMS TO THINK THE LINE "BEFORE THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS FALL,"
NO...
SHOULD WE LOOK AT THE TREES TOO...?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
KEE KEE
ZERO...

HUH?
WHY DON'T WE TRY GOING UP THAT TOWER?
INSTEAD,
AS THE SAYING GOES, "DON'T MISS THE FOREST FOR THE TREES..."
IT'D BE A GOOD IDEA TO TAKE A GOOD VIEW FROM ABOVE,
AND POSSIBLY,
OF THE WHOLE ISLAND TO GET AN IDEA WHAT'S HERE,
UNDERSTAND KIJUROU'S TRUE INTENT AS WELL...!

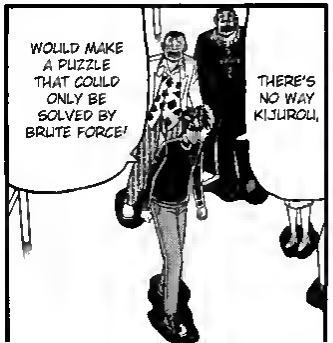
Chapter 48 Bird's Eye View


THIS IS GONNA BE IMPOSSIBLE!
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THE MARK IS!
AND WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE LOOKING FOR A CERTAIN MARKED ONE...?
THEN ALL IT BOILS DOWN TO,

THERE REALLY ARE A LOT OF CHERRY BLOSSOM TREES!
BUT WOW,


THERE'S WAY TOO MANY TREES ON THIS ISLAND!
AS TATSUKI SAID EARLIER,

HUH?
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY THE TREES AREN'T THE ANSWER!

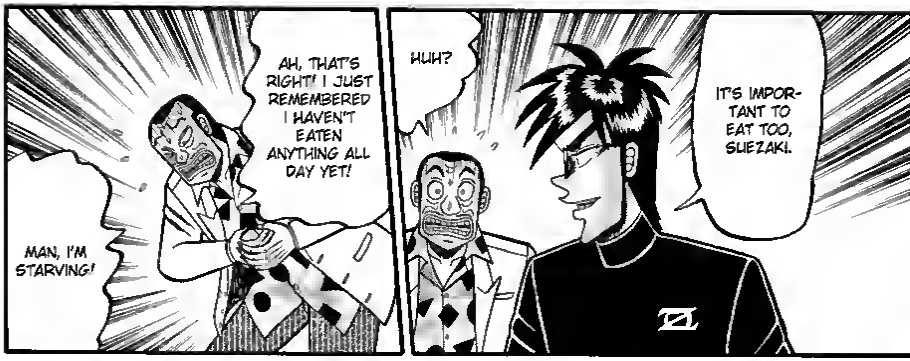

WOULD MAKE A PUZZLE THAT COULD ONLY BE SOLVED BY BRUTE FORCE!
THERE'S NO WAY KIJUROU,

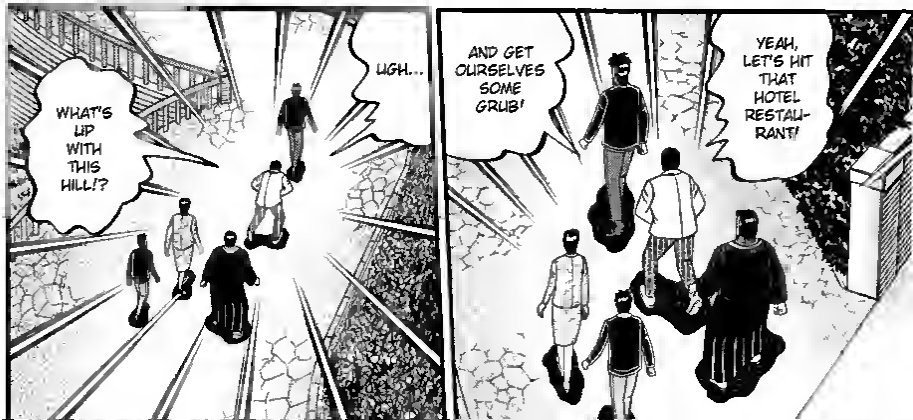
WE'LL LOSE FOR SURE!
IF WE CAN'T GET A WHOLE BUNCH OF PEOPLE TO COMB THROUGH EVERY TREE,

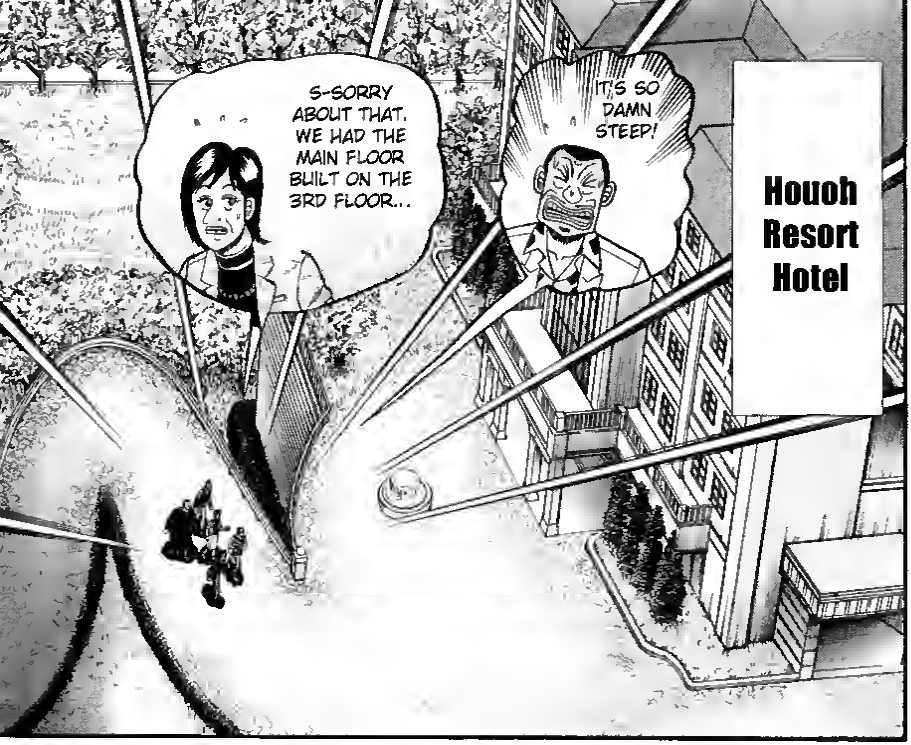
EXACTLY!

IS HOW MANY PEOPLE YOU HAVE ON YOUR SIDE!

LET'S GO TO THE HOTEL AND HAVE TEA OR SOMETHING.
WALKING AROUND IS POINTLESS WHEN WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR.
DID I JUST HEAR YOU CORRECTLY!?
WHAAA?
BUT ZERO...
LET'S HEAD BACK DOWN.


AH, THAT'S RIGHT! I JUST REMEMBERED I HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING ALL DAY YET!
MAN, I'M STARVING!
HUH?
IT'S IMPORTANT TO EAT TOO, SUEZAKI.

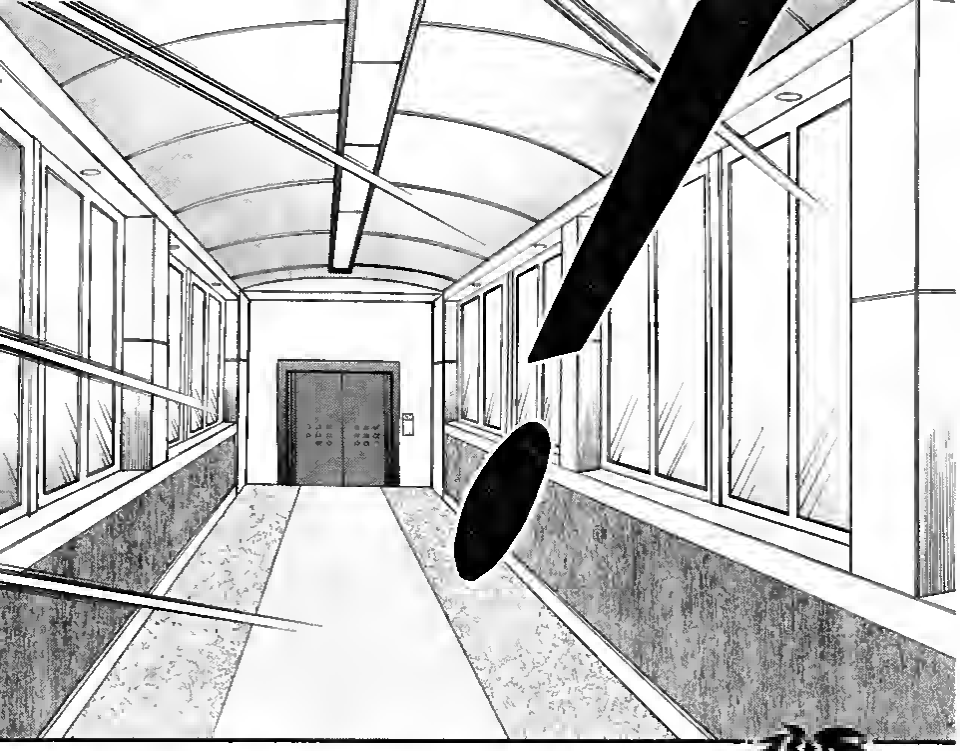

WHAT'S UP WITH THIS HILL!?
UGH...
AND GET OURSELVES SOME GRUB!
YEAH, LET'S HIT THAT HOTEL RESTAURANT!


S-SORRY ABOUT THAT. WE HAD THE MAIN FLOOR BUILT ON THE 3RD FLOOR...
IT'S SO DAMN STEEP!
Houoh Resort Hotel

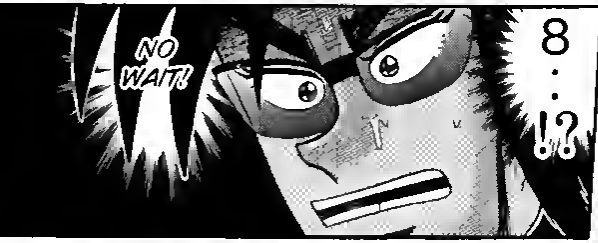
THE FIRST TWO FLOORS ARE USED AS A PARKING LOT AND SLEEPING QUARTERS FOR THE STAFF.
OH...
WHAT FLOOR IS THE RESTAURANT ON?
ON THE TOP FLOOR, 7TH.

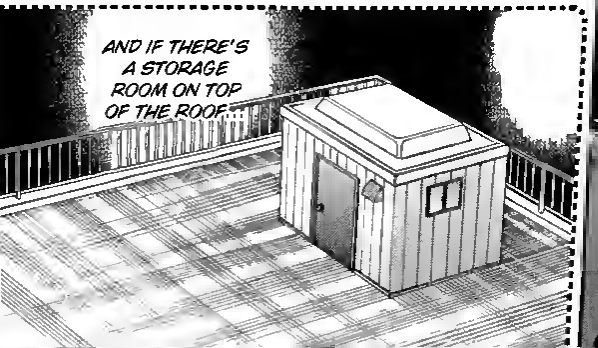
OHHH!
WHAT A VIEW!
HAHA!
NO WONDER THE RESTAURANT IS ON THIS FLOOR!
IT'S ONLY HUMAN TO WANT TO EAT AT A HIGH PLACE LIKE THIS!
CAN'T LET THIS VIEW GO TO WASTE, KNOW WHAT I'M SAYIN'?

MA'AM, WHERE DOES THAT DOOR LEAD TO?
OH, THAT'S THE RESORT AREA.
BY THIS WALKWAY ON THE 7TH FLOOR.
THAT WAY,
TO THE RESORT BESIDE IT,
THIS HOTEL IS CONN-TECTED,
RESORT AREA?
PEOPLE IN THE RESORT CAN EASILY GO TO THE RESTAU-RANT,
WITHOUT HAVING TO WALK BACK OUTSIDE.
C'MON, ZERO!
LET'S EAT ALREADY!
EAT!
.....

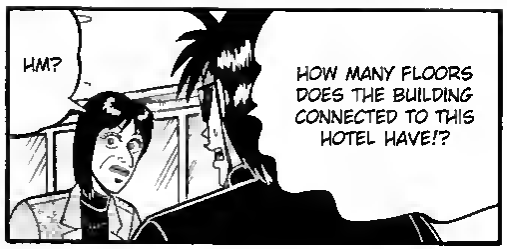


AH!


NO WAIT!
8・!?


AND IF THERE'S A STORAGE ROOM ON TOP OF THE ROOF...

8?
8?
8?
8?


HM?
HOW MANY FLOORS DOES THE BUILDING CONNECTED TO THIS HOTEL HAVE!?

8?
THERE SHOULD BE 8..

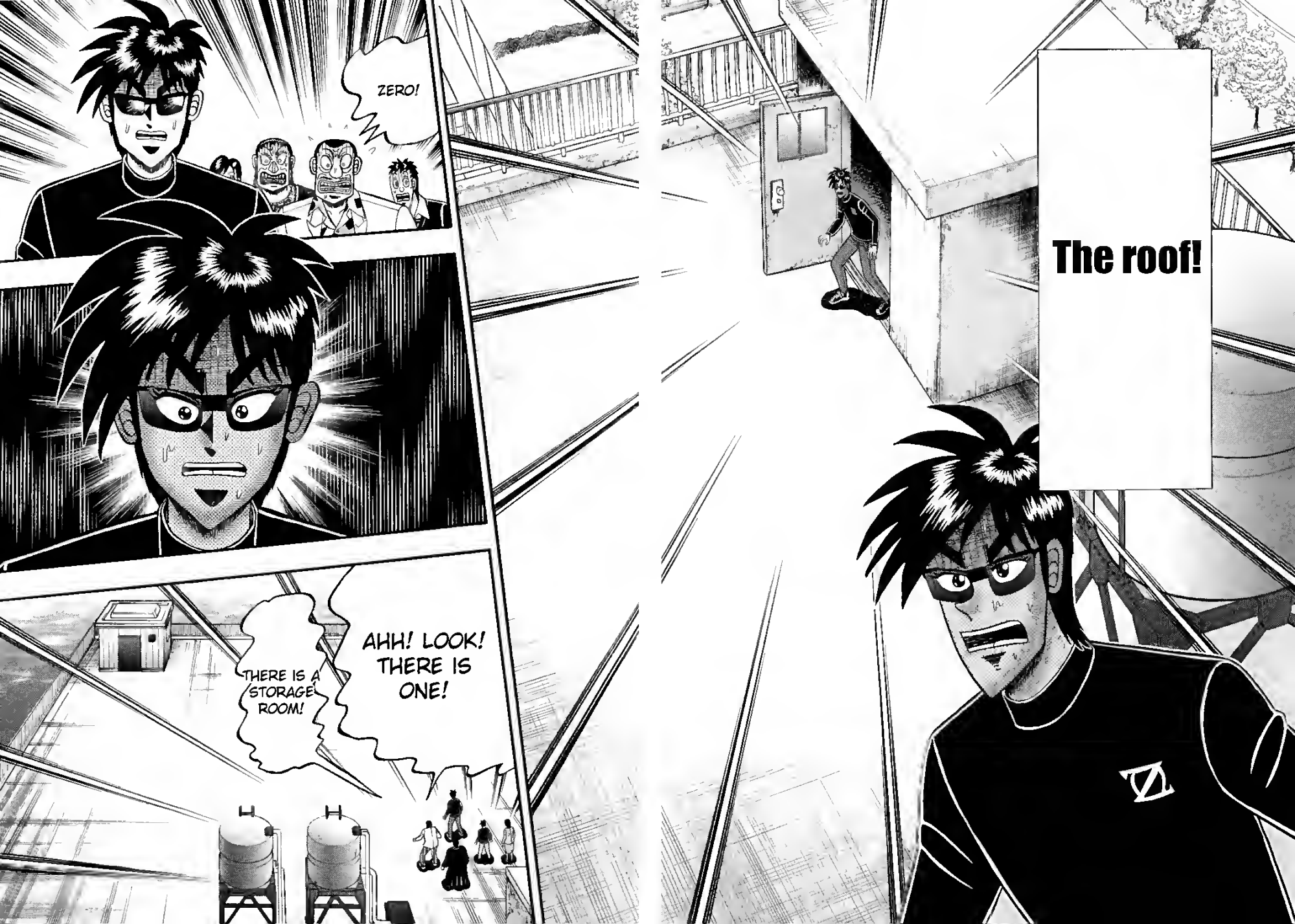
H...
EARTH TO ZERO!

MA'AM, CAN I GO OVER THERE RIGHT NOW!?
WHAT IS IT, ZERO!?
9!
THANK YOU!
SURE, JUST USE THIS KEY-CARD.

WHA?
I MAY HAVE JUST SOLVED THE SECRET TO 3779!
ZERO!

LOBBY ON THE 3RD FLOOR!
TAKE THE ELEVATOR TO THE 7TH FLOOR!
THEN THROUGH THE WALKWAY TO THE 7TH FLOOR OF THE BUILDING NEXT DOOR!
AND THEN GO UP ONE MORE FLOOR TO THE 8TH FLOOR...
BUT...

IF THERE'S A STORAGE ROOM UP ON THE ROOF, THAT'D BE THE 9TH FLOOR!
THAT'D MAKE...
3779!
3 7 7 9
Hotel Lobby
Hotel Restaurant
Resort Area
Storage room on the roof
Through the Emergency Door.
And up to the roof!
And then,
Elevator to the 8th floor.
THAT'S IT!
THAT'S THE SECRET TO THE CODE!
!


ZERO!
AHH! LOOK! THERE IS ONE!
THERE IS A STORAGE ROOM!
The roof!

DO YOU REALLY THINK...
ZERO...
KIJUROU'S IN HERE...?

.....
Oo
ZERO
SOMEONE MUST BE INSIDE!
THAT SOUND JUST NOW!
GULP!
KU
.....
IT'S OPEN!
AHH!

THERE'S A...
PERSON INSIDE!
!!
AHHHH!
WHO ARE YOU!?

KEE KEE KEE
TATSUKI!
TOO BAD,
BUT IT'S JUST A REGULAR STORAGE ROOM
NOTHING BUT CLEANING EQUIPMENT AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS STUFF IN HERE!
KEE KEE KEE!

HA, WHAT A GUY!
AFTER ALL, THE TWO BUILDINGS ARE BUILT TO MAKE THE NUMBER 3779!
9
7
7
3
STILL,
IT'S GOOD TO CHECK JUST IN CASE
GRAMPS SURE LOVED TO TEASE, DIDN'T HE!?
KEE KEE
THE WHOLE PLACE WAS FULL OF MISLEADING TRAPS!
EVEN BACK ON MT. FUJI,
YOU WERE THE FIRST TO REALIZE THE TRUTH ABOUT MT. FUJI.
WHAT?
SHALL WE CALL IT IT?

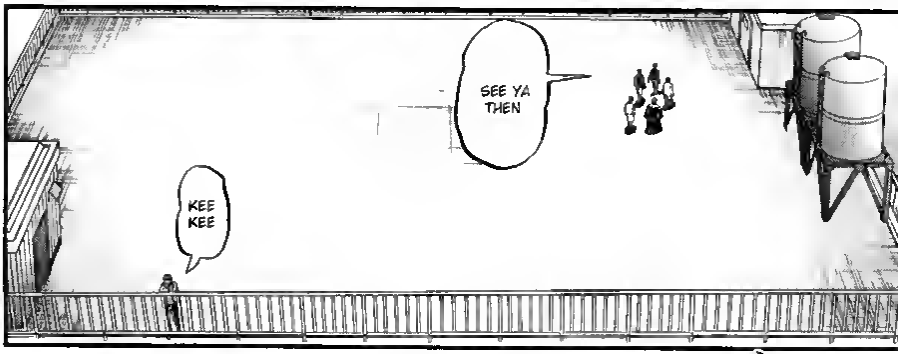
WE'RE TIED AT 1:1!
EVEN IF IT WAS JUST A DEAD-END,
BUT THIS TIME, I WAS THE FIRST TO REALIZE THE THING ABOUT 3779,
THAT'S WHY,
KEE KEE
LOOKS LIKE,
I'M ALL CAUGHT UP!
THERE SURE ARE A HELL OF A LOT OF TREES,
ON THIS ISLAND!
KEE KEE
IN ANY CASE,

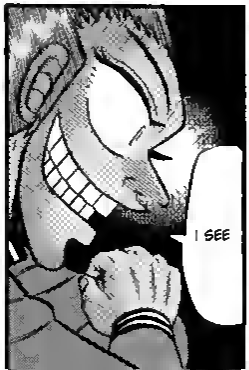
KEE
KEE
KEE
SO
ZERO,
WHAT'RE
YOU GONNA
DO NOW?
WELL...
NOT MUCH,
I SUPPOSE

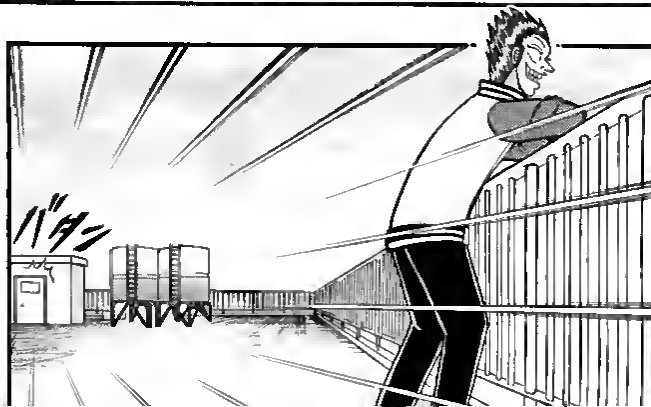
I'LL BE HAVING LUNCH
AND SINCE I HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING ALL DAY,

I DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER LEADS FOR NOW,

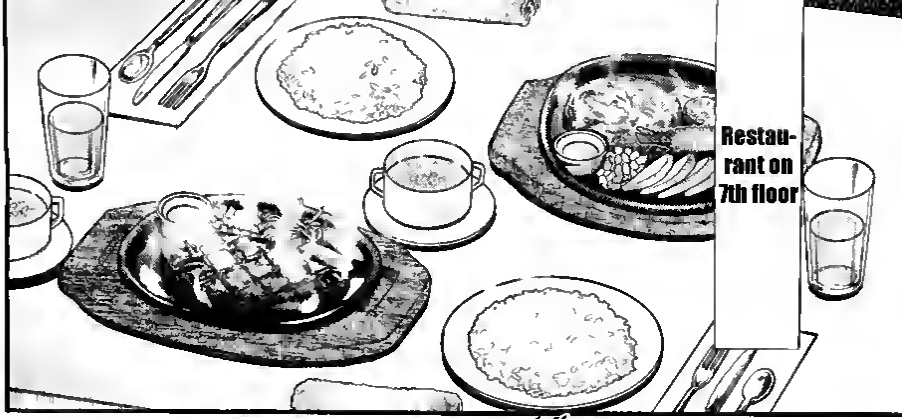
AND MAYBE TALK ABOUT THE PAST WHILE I'M AT IT TOO.


SEE YA THEN
KEE KEE


I SEE


バタン

NOT A BAD IDEA.
I DON'T EXACTLY HAVE ANY BACK-UP PLANS RIGHT NOW EITHER.
KEE KEE KEE
YO POPS!
LOOK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE TREE!
NEAR THE ROOTS!
THE ROOTS!
WHAT IS IT?
I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME,
YOU GAVE YOUR BAD LEADERSHIP A REST.
LET'S GO INSIDE AND HAVE TEA OR SOMETHING.
AND MAYBE ACT LIKE WE'RE A FAMILY ONCE IN A WHILE, Y'KNOW?
WHA?


Restaurant on 7th floor

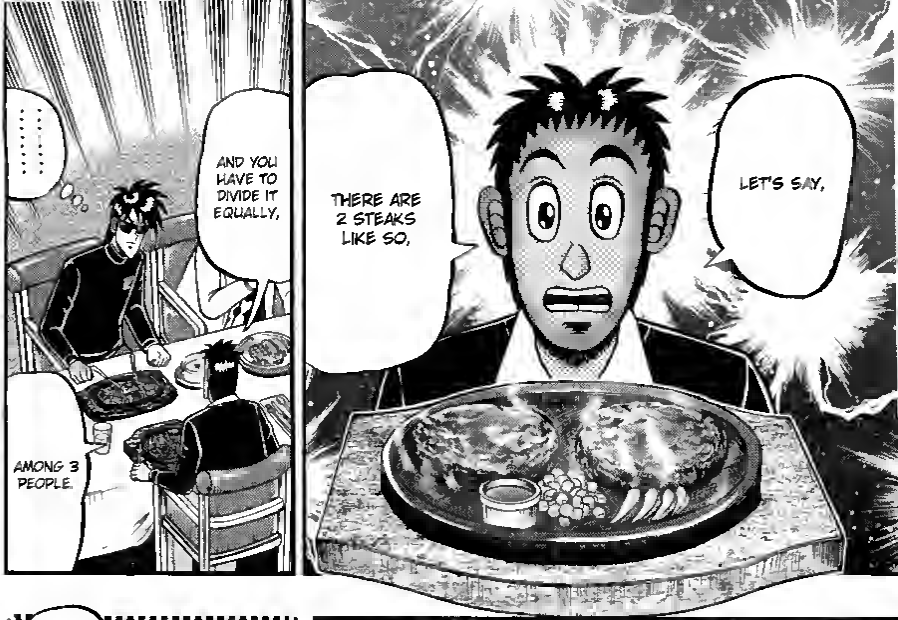
WHAT?
.....

ANY ANECDOTE INVOLVING YOUR GRANDFATHER WILL DO.
SOMETHING THAT'LL LET ME UNDERSTAND HIM BETTER

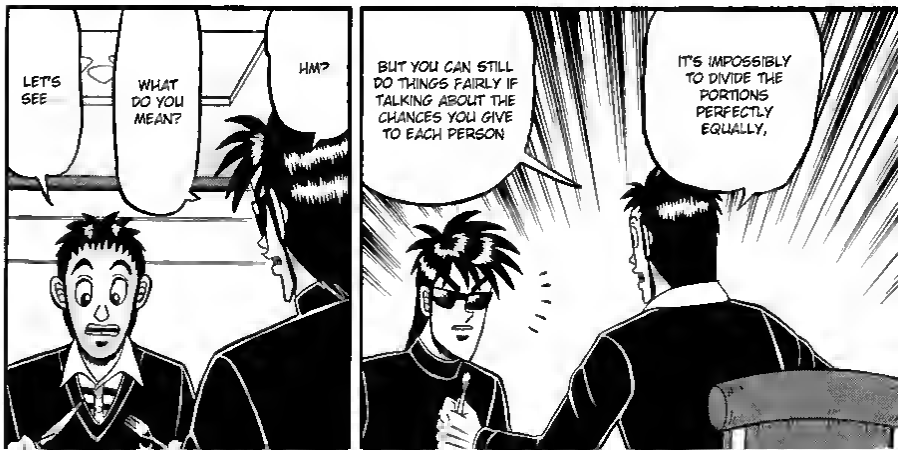
YOU WANT ME TO TALK ABOUT GRAMPS?
YES.

IT JUST MAY GIVE ME THE LEAD I NEED RIGHT NOW.
HMM...

Ooo
WELL...
ズズズ!
ズズズ!
SIMPLY PUT, MY GRANDPA WAS... ECCENTRIC.
HE'D SAY THE MOST BIZARRE THINGS FROM TIME TO TIME
AND HE LOVED PUZZLES
PUZZLES?
YEAH.
FOR EXAMPLE-
MOM, CAN I BORROW YOUR STEAK?
SURE, GO AHEAD


LET'S SAY,
THERE ARE 2 STEAKS LIKE SO,
AND YOU HAVE TO DIVIDE IT EQUALLY,
.....
AMONG 3 PEOPLE.

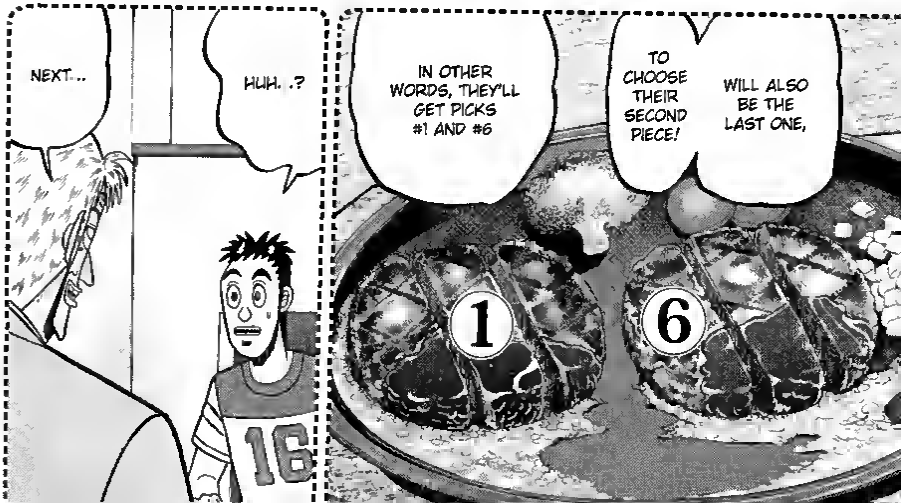
HOW WOULD YOU DO IT?
THIS IS A PROBLEM HE ONCE GAVE ME.
I SEE
MY GRAMPA SAID...
Kijurou


IT'S IMPOSSIBLY TO DIVIDE THE PORTIONS PERFECTLY EQUALLY,
BUT YOU CAN STILL DO THINGS FAIRLY IF TALKING ABOUT THE CHANCES YOU GIVE TO EACH PERSON.
HM?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
LET'S SEE...

INTO 6 PIECES LIKE SO.
DIVIDE THE STEAKS,
TO START,
NOW THEN...
THIS IS WHERE THE REAL PROBLEM BEGINS.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, NAOKI?
IF 3 PEOPLE WERE TO EAT THESE TWO STEAKS,
DIVIDED UP INTO 6 PORTIONS,
HOW MANY WOULD EACH PERSON GET?
2!
Naoki (Age 9)
16

6 DIVIDED BY 3,
IS TWO!
HAHA!
WHY, IS THAT NOT FAIR?
WELL... NOT QUITE.

BUT BY ADDING A CERTAIN OTHER RULE, IT CAN BE FAIR!
AND THAT OTHER RULE IS...
THE PERSON WHO GOES FIRST IN CHOOSING THEIR FIRST PIECE,


WILL ALSO BE THE LAST ONE,
TO CHOOSE THEIR SECOND PIECE!
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY'LL GET PICKS #1 AND #6
1
6
HUH. .?
NEXT...

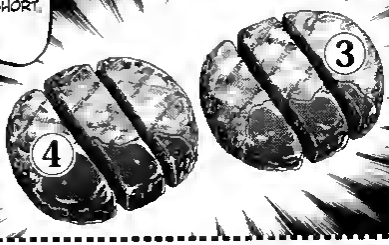
THE PERSON WHO CHOOSES SECOND FOR HIS FIRST PIECE,

WILL ALSO CHOOSE SECOND FOR HIS SECOND PIECE, GIVING HIM PICKS #2 AND #5 OVERALL.

AND LASTLY,

BY THE SAME METHOD, THE THIRD PERSON WILL HAVE PICKS #3 AND #4 OVERALL.

IN SHORT,



THE POSSIBLE CHOICES ARE 1 AND 6, 2 AND 5, OR 3 AND 4.

AND IF YOU ADD THE NUMBERS UP...

$1+6=7$
$2+5=7$
$3+4=7$

EACH HAS THE SUM OF 7.

SO ALTHOUGH DIVIDING EACH PORTION,

EXACTLY THE SAME IS IMPOSSIBLE...

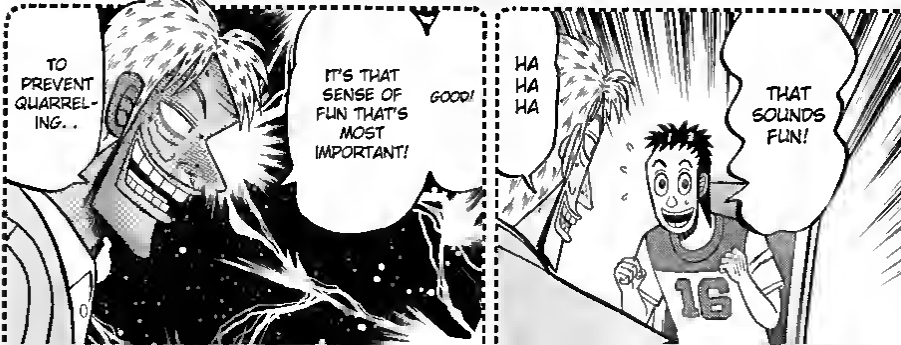
WE CAN MAKE IT SO THAT THE EXPECTED VALUES ARE THE SAME FOR ALL!

IN ESSENCE, IT'S GIVING EVERYONE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY.

NOW...

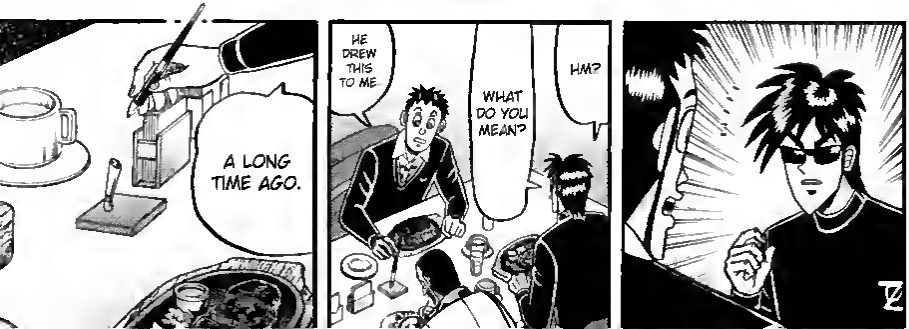
THE LAST KEY POINT TO DISCUSS...
IS DECIDING WHO CHOOSES FIRST, SECOND, OR THIRD!
THAT CAN BE DONE BY A FAIR GAME OF ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS!
ROCK-PAPER-SCIS-SORS?
THE WINNER CAN DECIDE WHICH 7 HE WANTS.
#1 AND #6?
#2 AND #5?
#3 AND #4?

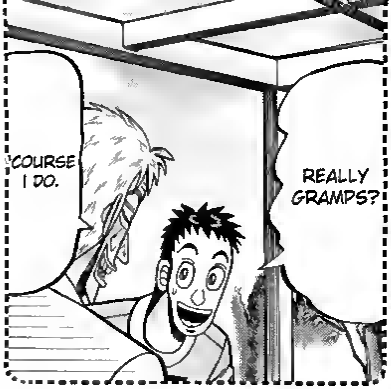
AND SO, IT BECOMES A GAME,
TO DECIDE WHICH 7 WOULD BEST SUIT YOU!


THAT SOUNDS FUN!
HA HA HA
GOOD!
IT'S THAT SENSE OF FUN THAT'S MOST IMPORTANT!
TO PREVENT QUARREL-ING..

THAT'S THE SECRET!
YOU TURN IT INTO A GAME!

THIS THING ABOUT THE SHAPE OF GOD...
THERE WAS ALSO,
I SEE!

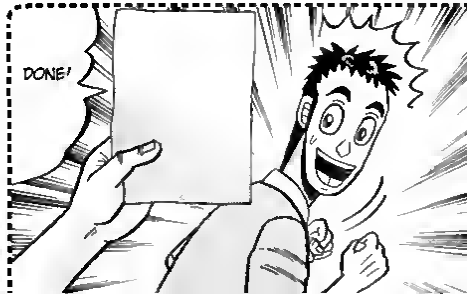

A LONG TIME AGO.
HE DREW THIS TO ME
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HM?


REALLY GRAMPS?
COURSE I DO.

YOU KNOW HOW GOD LOOKS LIKE!?
HAHA

LET ME DRAW HIM FOR YOU.
COOL!

FACE THE OTHER WAY FOR A SECOND.
SURE!


DONE!

WHAT!
YOU'RE LYING!
THAT'S GOD FOR YA!
.....
GOD OBSERVES THE BILLIONS OF HUMANS WHO LIVE ON EARTH EVERY DAY, NO MATTER WHAT
EVEN AS,
CALM DOWN A LITTLE AND LISTEN FIRST.
HAHA
JUST HOW IS THIS SUPPOSED TO BE GOD!?
AND EVEN AS GOD HIMSELF REALIZES THE TRAIN-WRECK LOOMING AHEAD OF THEM,
COUNTLESS PEOPLE DESPERATELY RUN TOWARDS THE WRONG DIRECTION IN LIFE BY MAKING BAD DECISIONS...
HE DOESN'T LOOK AWAY!

PERHAPS BECAUSE HE CAN'T INTERFERE...
AND HE NEVER INTERFERES EITHER
.....
BECAUSE HE'S GOD!
AND YET HE STILL WATCHES! HE CONTINUES TO SIT BY AND WATCH THEIR CRINGE-WORTHY ACTIONS!
HE'S POWERLESS TO DISSUADE THEM!
WOULD BE...
WHO CAN BELIEVE IN A GOD LIKE THAT,
AND A PERSON,

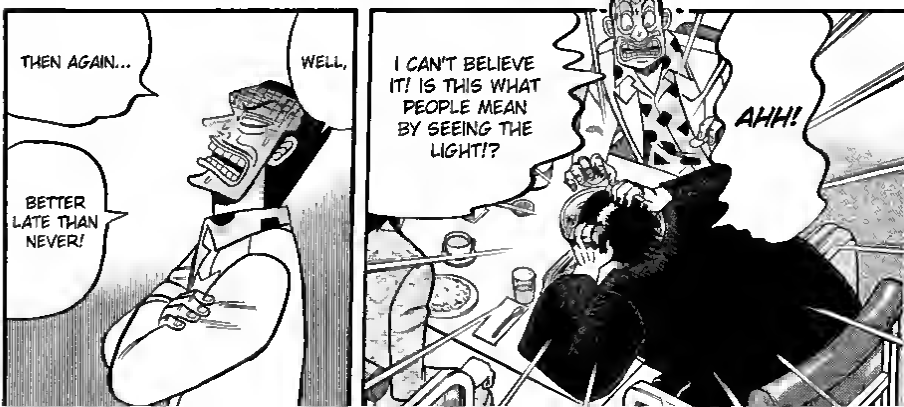
A PERSON WHO CAN SENSE,
THE PRESENCE OF SOMEONE ALWAYS WATCHING FROM ABOVE...

THAT'S WHAT HE TOLD ME.
...

SUCH A PERSON WOULD BE EXCEP-TIONAL!

AHH!
GAH!
AHH...
AHHH!
THAT MUST BE WHAT PEOPLE CALL A CONSCIENCE
.....
UU...

YOU'RE REGRETTING THEM NOW!?
ALL THOSE HORRIBLE THINGS I DID...!
AGHHH! I'M HAVING PANGS OF GUILT!


THEN AGAIN...
WELL,
BETTER LATE THAN NEVER!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! IS THIS WHAT PEOPLE MEAN BY SEEING THE LIGHT!?
AHH!

RIGHT, ZERO!?
RIGHT UP TO THE MOMENT OF THEIR DEATH.
THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO'LL CONTINUE RUNNING DOWN THE WRONG PATH IN LIFE.
YES, BETTER LATE THAN NEVER!
AHH!
BIRD!
THE 6TH HOUR!
SHADOW'S OF 6 BIRDS!
BETWEEN THE DRAGON AND TIGER
AHH!

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あ

HM?
MA'AM, WHEN WILL THE NEXT FERRY COME!?
YOU'D HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE ONE AT 5PM.
BUT IF YOU MISS THAT,
THERE'S ONE AT 11:30.

I'VE BEEN COMPLETELY FOOLED BY KIJUROU!
WHAT IS IT?

ガタ

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あ
あ
あ

IT'S NOT THIS ISLAND!
UHH... BY THAT, DO YOU MEAN
WHAT?
THAT GIVES US ONLY 15 MINUTES! WE HAVE TO GET ON THAT FERRY!
THE TRUE MEANING BEHIND THE CODED MESSAGE!
I JUST FIGURED IT OUT!
THE PLACE KIJUROU IS REALLY BEING HELD!
I KNOW,

WE HAVE TO HURRY!
KIJUROU ISN'T ON THIS ISLAND!

WHA...!?
ZERO!

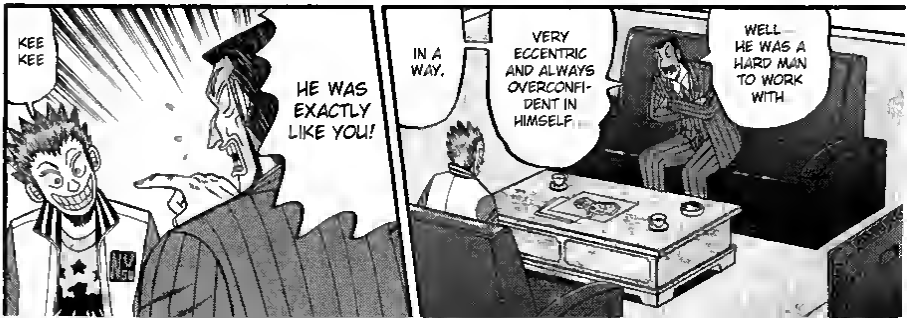
I KNOW WE'RE EATING RIGHT NOW,
BUT WE'VE GOTTA CATCH THAT FERRY!
SO COME ON!

DAMMIT!
ZERO!
START RUNNING!
YOU'RE A REAL CRAFTY ONE, KIJUROU...
BUT...
I HAVE TO ADMIT,
I FELL HEAD FIRST RIGHT INTO YOUR TRAP!
AT LAST...

Just a little more!

I'LL BE THERE TO RESCUE YOU NO MATTER WHAT!

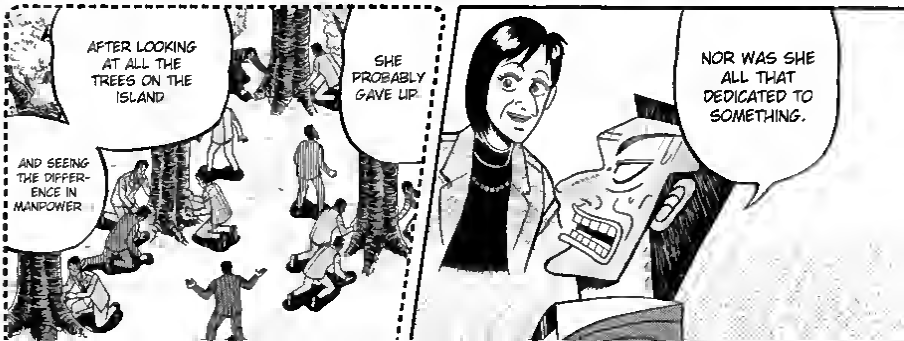
うぅ
YOU WANT ME TO TALK ABOUT MY FATHER?
Mean-while


KEE KEE
HE WAS EXACTLY LIKE YOU!
IN A WAY.
VERY ECCENTRIC AND ALWAYS OVERCONFI-DENT IN HIMSELF
WELL HE WAS A HARD MAN TO WORK WITH

EXCUSE ME SIR,
ガチャ
WHAT IS IT? YES?
KNOCK KNOCK
I CAME TO REPORT SOME-THING...
BUT,
IT'S JUST THAT DIRECTOR SAWAKO AND HER PEOPLE HAVE...
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT.
HUH?
D-DID YOU FIND SOMETHING?
DID YOU FIND THE TREASURE!?
WHAT!?
N-NO, SIR.
N-NO, SIR!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THEY ONLY HAVE 4~5 PEOPLE WHEREAS WE HAVE...
THEY BEAT US TO THE TREASURE!?
DON'T TELL ME...!

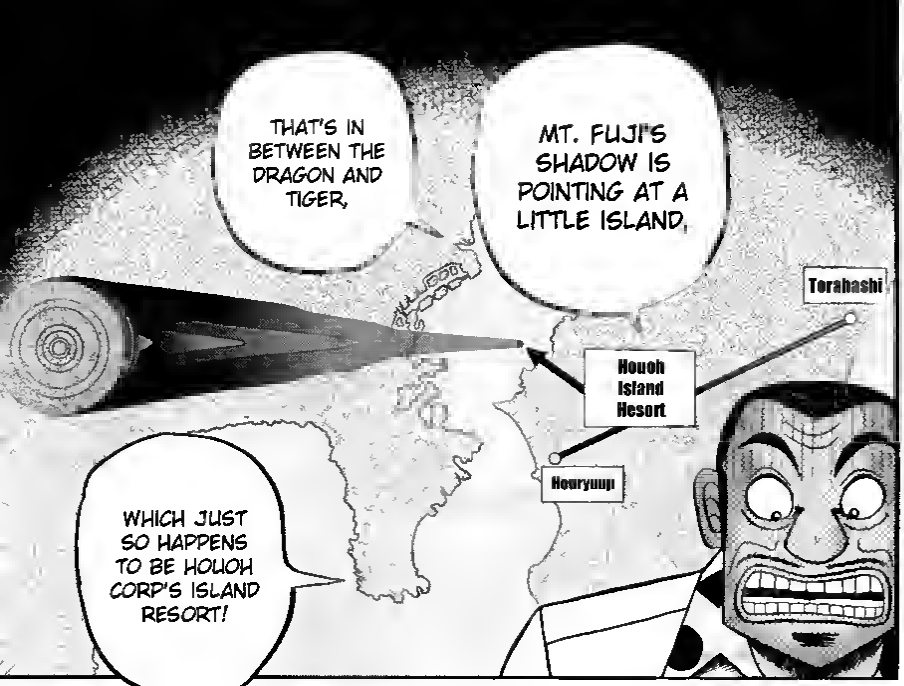
WHA...!?
.....
THEY LEFT THE ISLAND!
IT'S ACTUALLY MORE LIKE THE OPPO-SITE!
THEY LEFT?
YES, SIR. ON THE 11 O'CLOCK FERRY.

MY SISTER WAS NEVER REALLY THE AMBITIOUS TYPE,
WELL..
HMM...

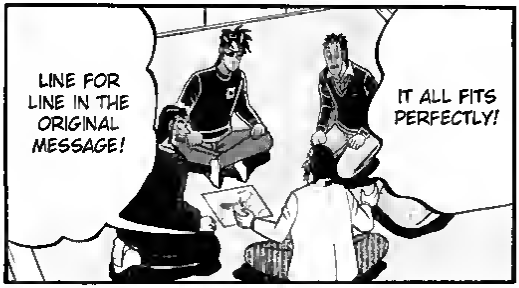

AFTER LOOKING AT ALL THE TREES ON THE ISLAND
AND SEEING THE DIFFER-ENCE IN MANPOWER
SHE PROBABLY GAVE UP.
NOR WAS SHE ALL THAT DEDICATED TO SOMETHING.

SHE THOUGHT IT'D BE BETTER TO GIVE UP.
POPS ..
YOU'RE COMPLETELY OFF THE MARK!
WHAT?
WELL, MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT AUNT SAWAKO,
BUT SHE HAS,
ZERO BY HER SIDE!
SO THAT'S 10 MIN FROM NOW.
DO WE HAVE ANY OF OUR STAFF ON THE OTHER SIDE?
HOW LONG BEFORE THE FERRY DOCKS ON THE OTHER SIDE?
IT'S SET TO ARRIVE AT 11:50...
YES, A COUPLE...
GOOD.
THEN TELL THEM,
TO TAIL AFTER ZERO!

ボォ
SO...
CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE SITUA-TION?
WHY DID WE HAVE TO LEAVE ALL OF A SUDDEN?
THAT'S RIGHT!
HOW DO YOU KNOW KIJUROU'S NOT ON THAT ISLAND FOR SURE WHEN WE BARELY EVEN LOOKED!
I MEAN,
YOUR LOGIC WAS PERFECT!


THAT'S IN BETWEEN THE DRAGON AND TIGER,
MT. FUJI'S SHADOW IS POINTING AT A LITTLE ISLAND,
Torahashi
Houoh Island Resort
Houryuuji
WHICH JUST SO HAPPENS TO BE HOUOH CORP'S ISLAND RESORT!

Spring of Confinement,
Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak, Between the Dragon and Tiger, Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)
Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠


LINE FOR LINE IN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE!
IT ALL FITS PERFECTLY!

KIJUROU IS QUITE A MEAN TRICK-STER.
YES, EXACTLY.

HAHA.
HOW IN THE WORLD COULD THIS BE WRONG?

BECAUSE WE ARRIVE AT AN ISLAND USED AS A RESORT BY HOUOH!
ANYONE WOULD THINK THAT'S TOO MUCH TO BE A COINCIDENCE!
IT LOOKS RIGHT,
AT A FIRST GLANCE,
WHY DON'T WE TAKE A LOOK AT KIJUROU'S MESSAGE AGAIN,
BECAUSE IT'S A TRAP PURPOSEFULLY LAID BY KIJUROU!
BUT IT'S NOT THE RIGHT ANSWER EITHER
AND YES, IT ISN'T A COINCIDENCE
THE WORD HERE,
IS WRITTEN IN THE WRONG KANJI. SO INSTEAD OF "CONFINEMENT," IT SHOULD BE INSTEAD "BALANCE."
IN OTHER WORDS
Spring of Confinement
FIRST,
AND DECODE IT LINE BY LINE!

A TIME WHEN DAY AND NIGHT ARE OF EQUAL LENGTH!
THE EQUILUX!
EVERY-THING UP TO HERE IS FINE.
I'M QUITE SURE THE EQUILUX IS STILL CORRECT.
THE PROBLEM,
Spring of Confinement, Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak, Between the Dragon and Tiger, Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)
Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠
STARTS WITH THE NEXT TWO LINES
ESPECIALLY THE LINE
"SHADOWS OF 6 BIRDS"
HUH?
THIS IS WHERE THE TRAP IS!
WHAT?

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS FIGURE OF AN EDO-PERIOD CLOCK.
SUEZAKI,
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
.....
OOO

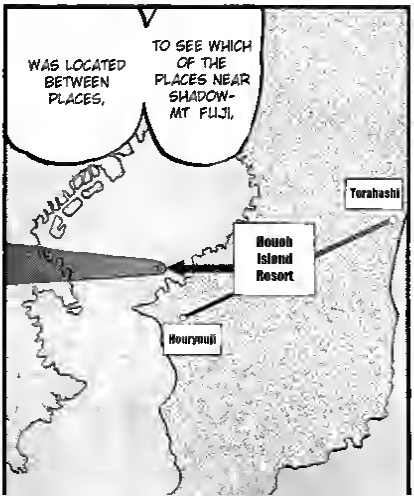
WAS KNOWN AS THE 6TH HOUR OF THE EVENING OR ALTERNA-TIVELY, HOUR OF THE BIRD.
THE TIME BETWEEN 5PM AND 7PM,

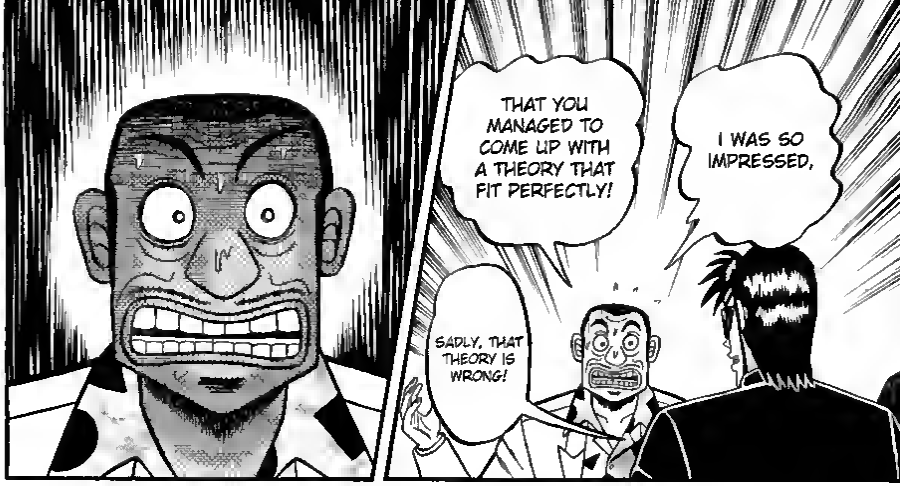
WHAT I DID WAS ASSUME THAT THE LINE...
WAS DURING THIS HOUR OF THE BIRD.
THE HUGE SHADOW-MT. FUJI WE SAW,
BACK WHEN WE WERE UP ON MT. FUJI,

REFERRED TO THIS SHADOW CASTED BY MT. FUJI DURING THE HOUR OF THE BIRD!
THE "6 BIRDS" IN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE,
SHADOW OF 6 BIRDS (3779)

FROM HERE,
I WENT BACK TO THE PREVIOUS LINE.
SEEMED OBVIOUSLY TO REFER TO THE FACT THAT HOUR OF THE BIRD WAS ALSO THE 6TH HOUR OF THE EVENING.

YES, EXACTLY!
WHICH HAVE THE KANJI FOR DRAGON OR TIGER IN THEIR NAMES!
BETWEEN THE DRAGON AND TIGER,

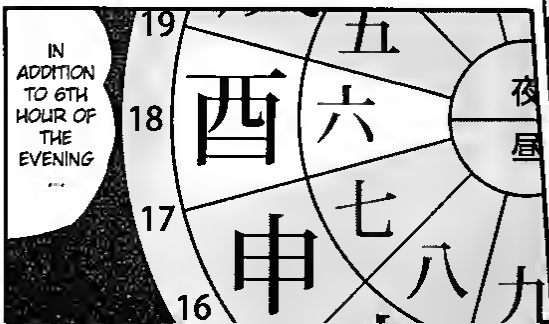

WAS LOCATED BETWEEN PLACES,
TO SEE WHICH OF THE PLACES NEAR SHADOW-MT FUJI,
Tora-ga-Ike
Tarahashi
Hourai Island Resort
Hourayuji


I WAS SO IMPRESSED,
THAT YOU MANAGED TO COME UP WITH A THEORY THAT FIT PERFECTLY!
SADLY, THAT THEORY IS WRONG!

I MISUNDERSTOOD THE LINES!
WHAT!?
WHAA!?

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE CLOCK AGAIN!

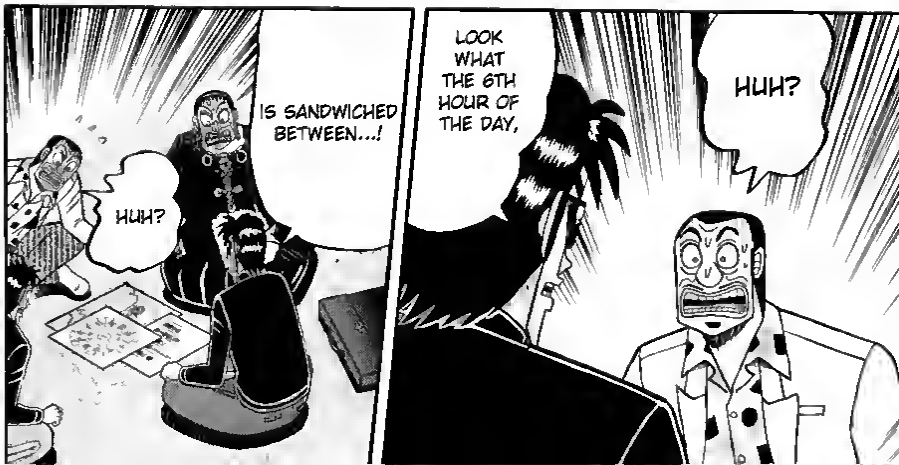
SUEZAKI,
MISUNDERSTOOD WHAT!?

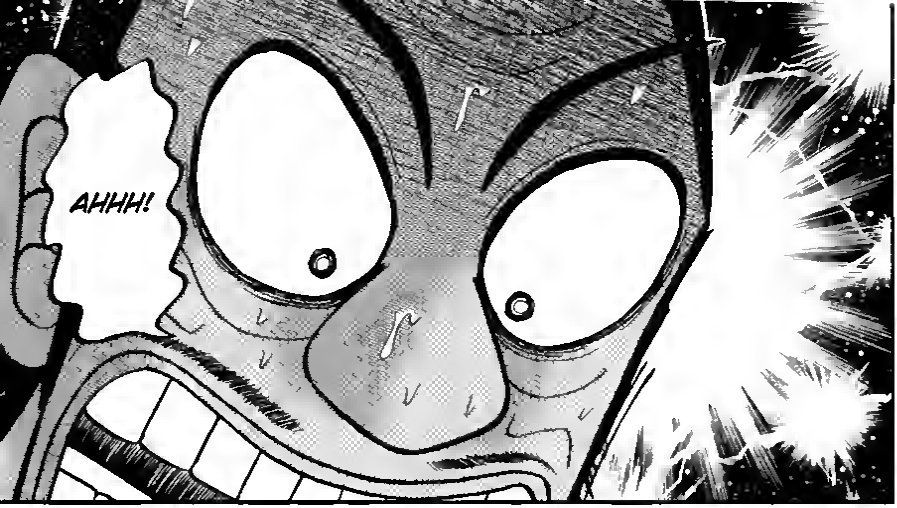

IN ADDITION TO 6TH HOUR OF THE EVENING ...
19
18
17
16
西
申
五
六
七
八
九
夜
昼

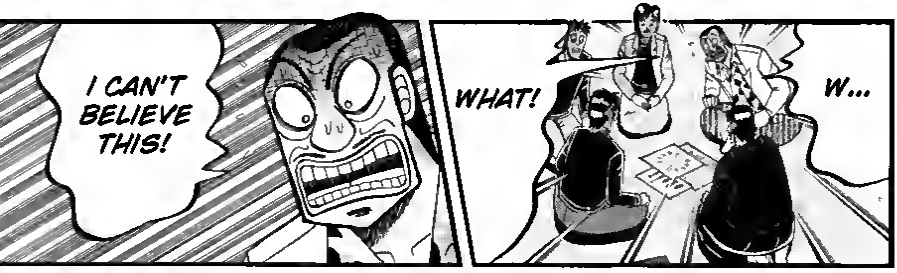
THERE'S ALSO A 6TH HOUR OF THE DAY!
AND THIS HOUR IS DURING THE EARLY MORNING!
AHH, YOU'RE RIGHT!
BUT...
W...
WHA!?
IN THE MORNING?

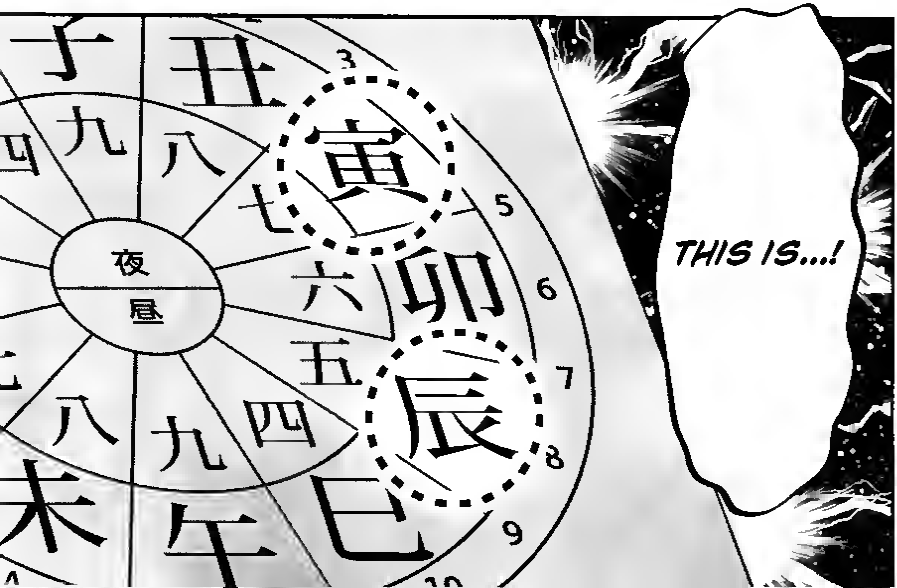
SUEZAKI,
ARE YOU SURE THE MESSAGE ISN'T TALKING ABOUT THE 6TH HOUR OF THE EVENING INSTEAD...?
IS THERE EVEN SUCH A BIG SHADOW- MIT FUJI IN THE MORNING?
BUT...

AT THE CLOCK!
TAKE ANOTHER LOOK.


HUH?
LOOK WHAT THE 6TH HOUR OF THE DAY,
IS SANDWICHED BETWEEN...!
HUH?


AHHH!

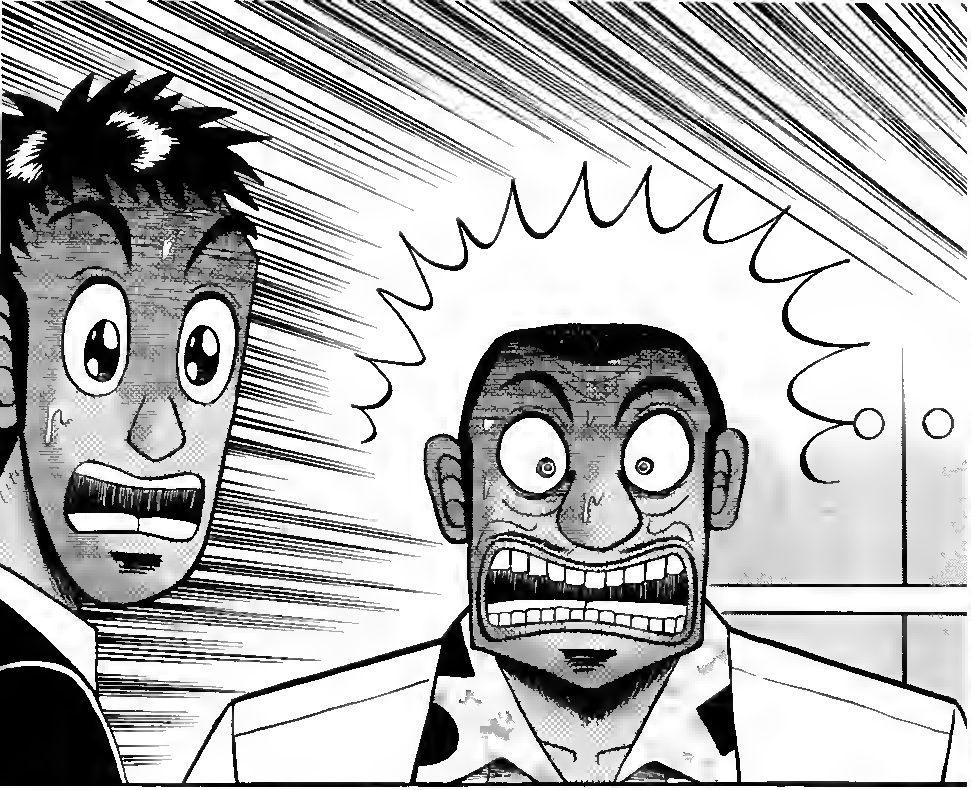

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
WHAT!
W...

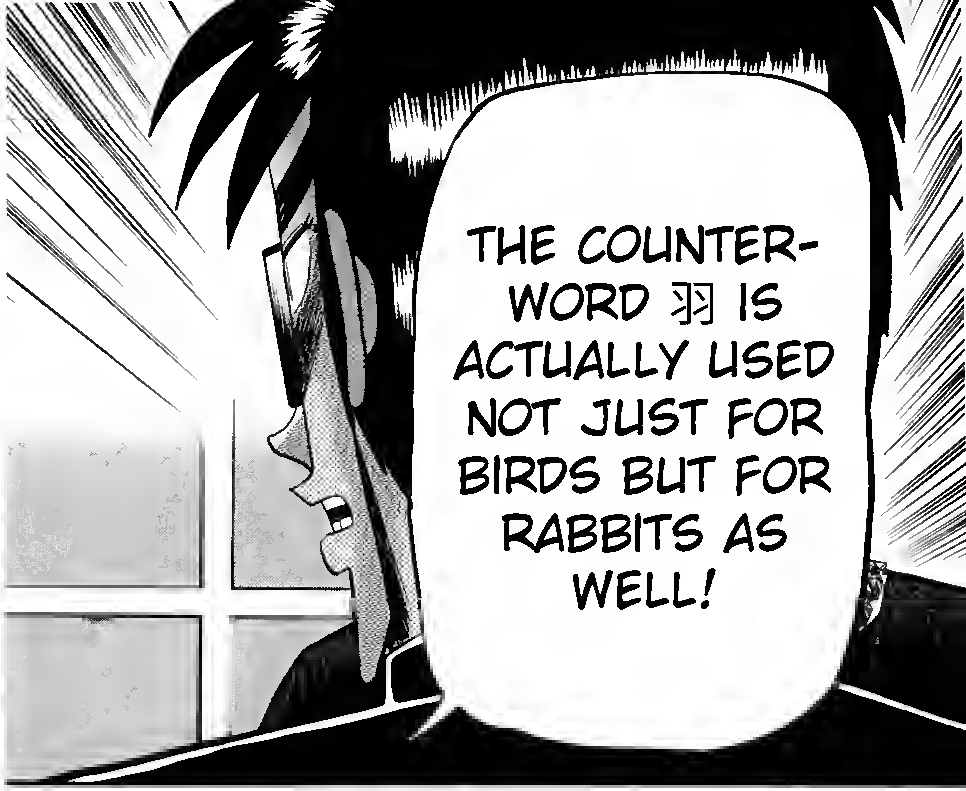

THIS IS...!
子
丑
寅
卯
辰
巳
午
未
夜
昼
九
八
七
六
五
四
3
5
6
7
8
9
10

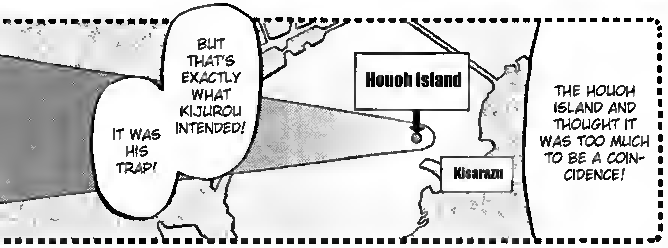
丑
寅
卯
辰
巳
八
七
六
五
四
辰
DRAGON!
寅
TIGER!
BETWEEN THE DRAGON AND TIGER!
JUST AS THE MESSAGE SAID!
HUH?

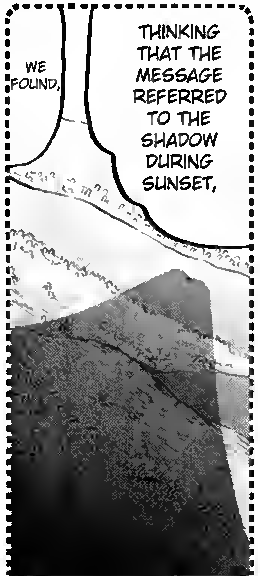
四 五 六 七 八
4
寅 卯 辰
7
IT READS RABBIT!
AT THE KANJI INBE-TWEEN!
LOOK, ZERO!
NO, WAIT!
THE 6TH HOUR OF THE MORNING IS ALSO CALLED HOUR OF THE RABBIT!
WHEN COUNTING RABBITS, YOU USE THE COUNTER-WORD 匹!
BUT THE ORIGINAL LINE IN THE MESSAGE SAID "SHADOWS OF 6 羽!"
THE ONE MISTAKEN HERE,
SUEZAKI...
AND 羽 IS THE COUNTER-WORD FOR BIRDS, NOT RABBITS! SO YOUR THEORY DOESN'T HOLD! IT'S WRONG!
IS ACTUALLY YOU!

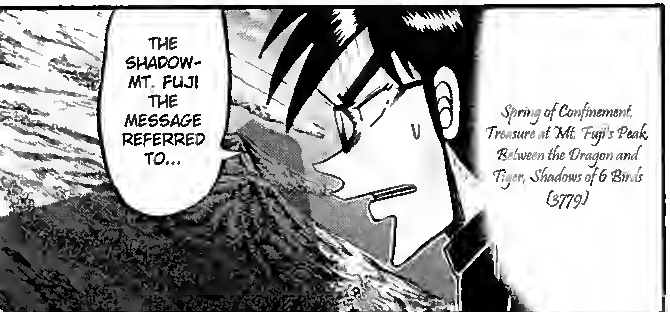
*JAPANESE USES THINGS CALLED COUNTER-WORDS TO COUNT OBJECTS. WHEN COUNTING MOST SMALL ANIMALS, 匹 (HIKI) IS USED. WHEN COUNTING BIRDS, 羽 (WA) IS USED.




THE COUNTER-WORD 羽 IS ACTUALLY USED NOT JUST FOR BIRDS BUT FOR RABBITS AS WELL!


BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT KIJUROU INTENDED!
IT WAS HIS TRAP!
Houoh Island
Kisarazu
THE HOUOH ISLAND AND THOUGHT IT WAS TOO MUCH TO BE A COINCIDENCE!

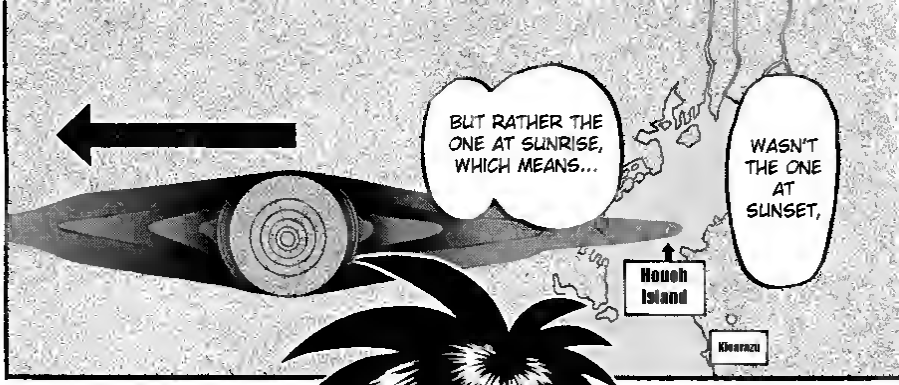

WE FOUND,
THINKING THAT THE MESSAGE REFERRED TO THE SHADOW DURING SUNSET,


THE SHADOW-MT. FUJI THE MESSAGE REFERRED TO...
Spring of Confinement. Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak. Between the Dragon and Tiger, Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)

YES,
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, YOU'RE RIGHT! RABBIT IS ONE OF THE EXCEPTIONS!

WE FELL RIGHT INTO KIJUROU'S TRAP!

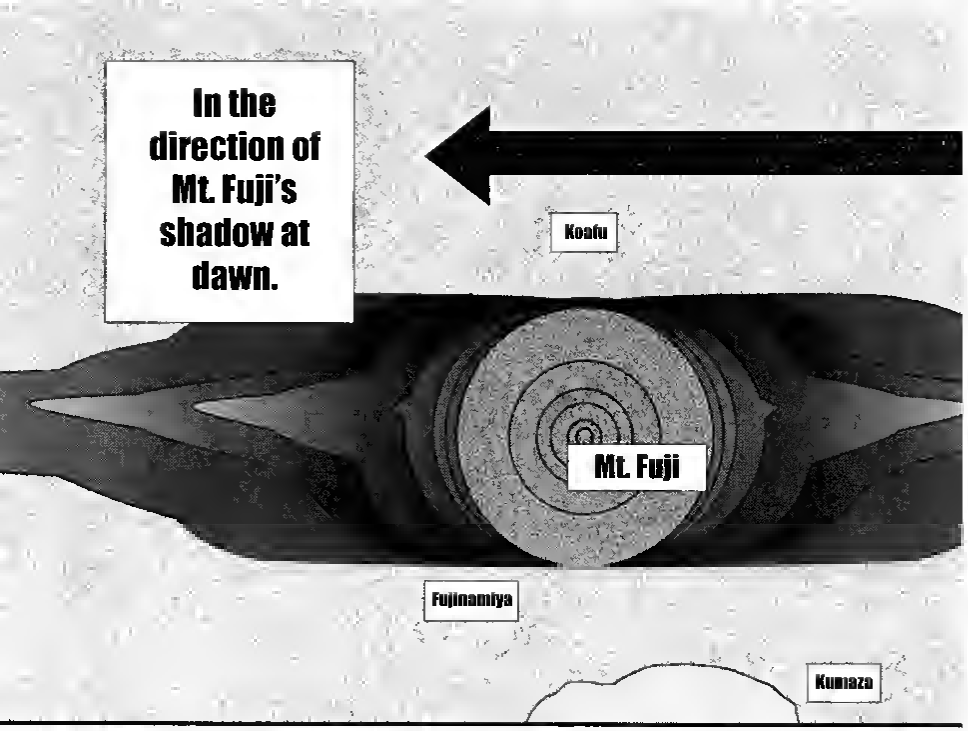
AHHH!

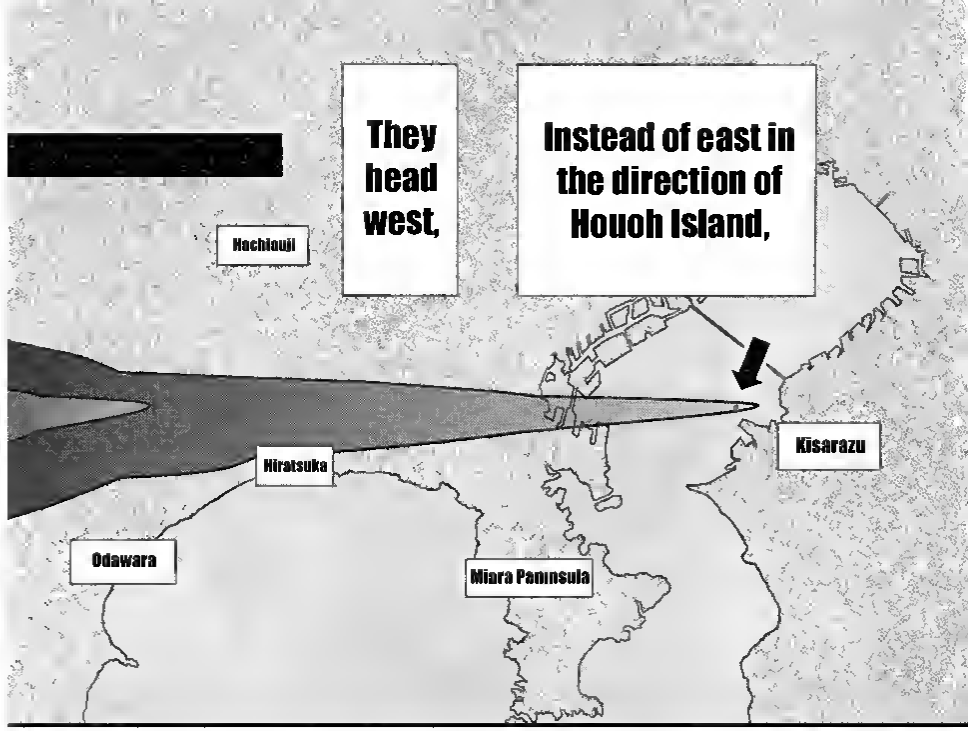

BUT RATHER THE ONE AT SUNRISE, WHICH MEANS...
WASN'T THE ONE AT SUNSET,
Honoh Island
Kisarazu

IT POINTS TOWARDS YAMANASHI!

ブロロロ..
木更津金田
Kisarazu-Kaneda
IT WAS ACTUALLY YAMANASHI,
THAT WE NEEDED TO GO ALL ALONG!
4950
8250

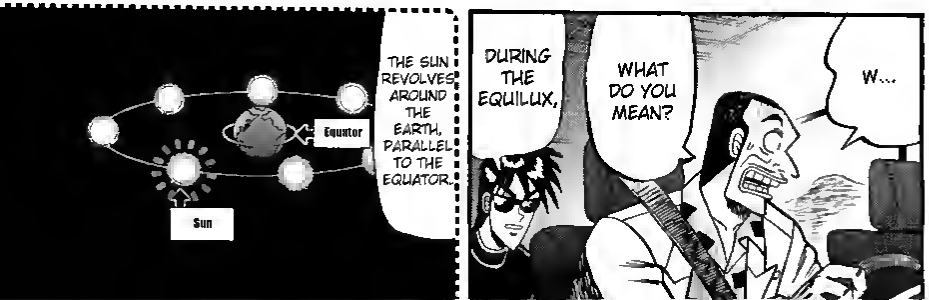
Chapter 51 Road Trip
ブロロロ…
Zero and his companions,
Are now headed full-speed ahead,
ロロロ…
To Yamanashi!


In the direction of Mt. Fuji's shadow at dawn.
Kofu
Mt. Fuji
Fujinamiya
Kumaza


They head west,
Instead of east in the direction of Houoh Island,
Hachiouji
Kisarazu
Hiratsuka
Odawara
Miara Peninsula

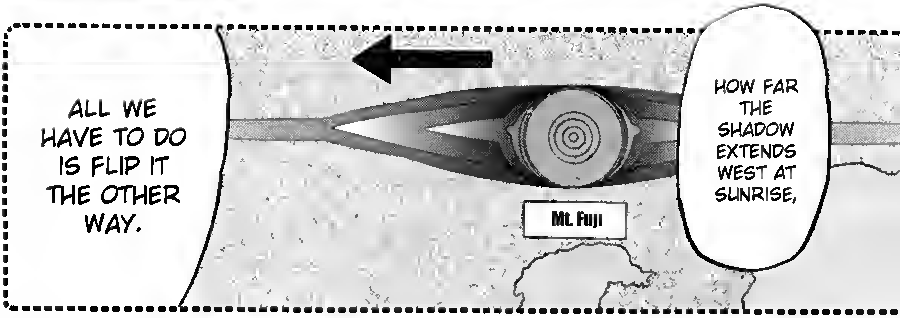
HUH?
THAT'S NOT NECCESSARY.
SUE-ZAKI,
UNTIL WE FIGURE OUT THAT, WE-

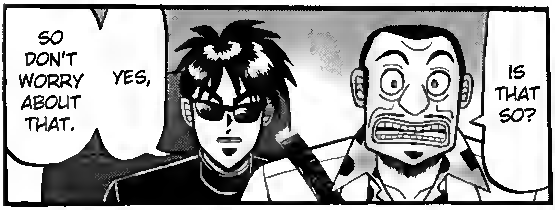
DO YOU HAVE TO CALCULATE THINGS ALL OVER AGAIN ONCE WE'RE IN YAMANASHI?
ZERO...

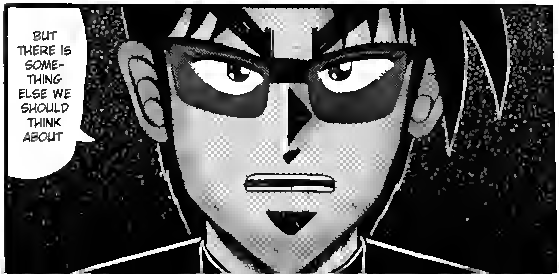

Equator
Sun
THE SUN REVOLVES AROUND THE EARTH, PARALLEL TO THE EQUATOR.
DURING THE EQUILUX,
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
W...

JUST HOW FAR MT. FUJI'S SHADOW EXTENDS WEST YET.
YOU DON'T KNOW,
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

TO FIGURE OUT,
WE ALREADY KNOW JUST HOW FAR THE SHADOW EXTENDS WEST AT SUNSET,
AND SINCE,
AND SETS DIRECTLY IN THE WEST.
IN OTHER WORDS, THE SUN RISES DIRECTLY FROM EAST,


ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS FLIP IT THE OTHER WAY.
Mt. Fuji
HOW FAR THE SHADOW EXTENDS WEST AT SUNRISE,


SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT.
YES,
IS THAT SO?

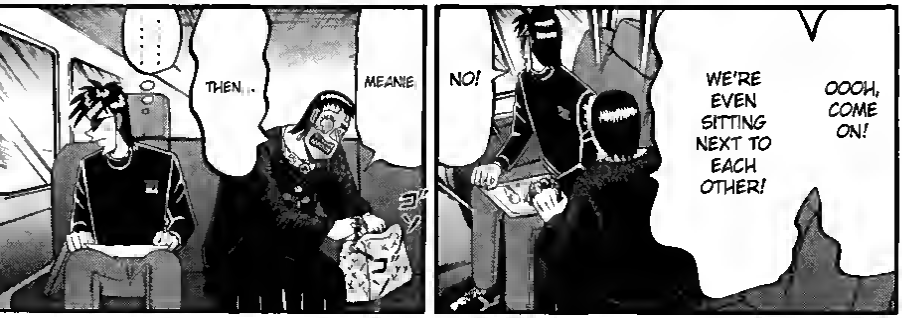

BUT THERE IS SOME-THING ELSE WE SHOULD THINK ABOUT

SO THERE'S NO NEED TO MAKE A NEW FIGURE.
OH...

MT. FUJI'S SHADOW AT DAWN CROSSES ALL THE WAY INTO THE MINOBU AND AKAISHI MOUNTAINS,
WHICH MEANS,
THE TIP OF MT FUJI'S SHADOW,
WOULD BE SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THOSE MOUNTAINS
HOWEVER,
JUST AT THE FOOTHILL OF THE MOUNTAINS,
THERE'S A TOWN CALLED UME-DAIRA
Umedaira
Minobu Train Line
DURING THE HOUR OF THE RABBIT, WHICH WOULD BE FROM 5AM TO 7AM,
THIS TOWN SHOULD ALSO FALL WITHIN THE SHADOW
IF POSSIBLE.
I HOPE WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR IS IN A TOWN INSTEAD OF THE MOUN-TAINS,
SINCE THAT WOULD MAKE THE SEARCH EASIER
SO LET'S HOPE THIS TOWN IS WHERE KIJUROU IS HELD CAPTIVE,
OR AT THE VERY LEAST...

じっ…
WHERE OUR NEXT HINT WILL B
……
じじじ…じ…
W-WHAT?
OH ZERO, OH ZERO!
COULD YOU BE ANY MORE SMARTER?
UHH…
ハァ…ハァ…ハァ…ハァ…ハァ…
IT'S SORT OF COMMON SENSE
BETTER TO SEARCH A SMALL TOWN BEFORE LOOKING ALL OVER THE MOUNTAIN
ZERO

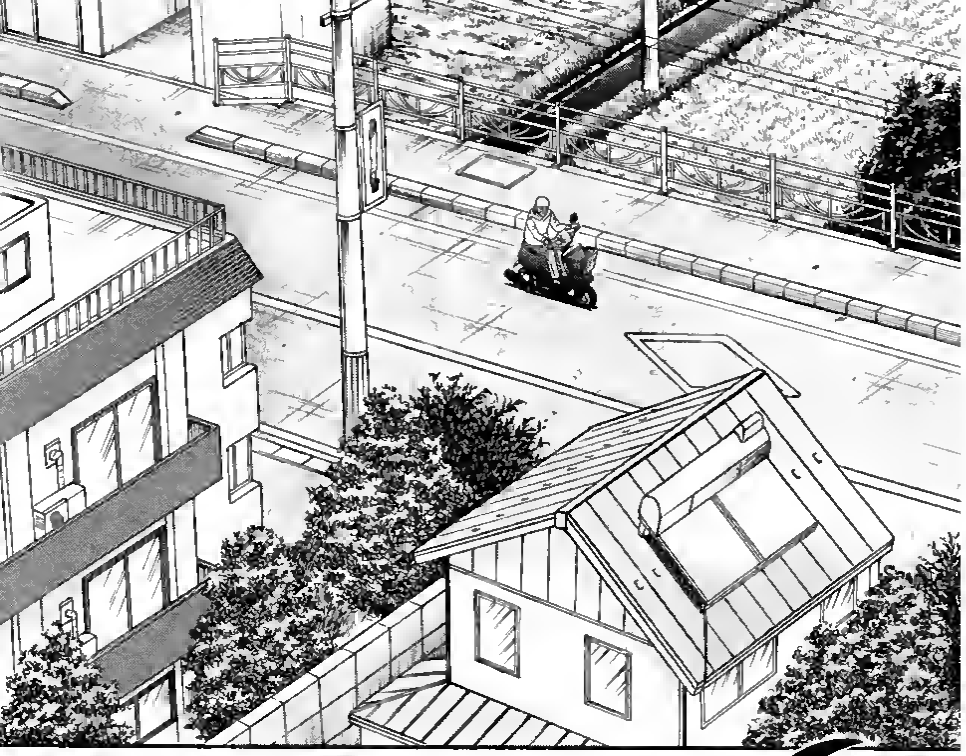
HEY, ZERO
ZERO! HEY, ZERO! HEY!
NO!
HUH?
CAN I HOLD YOUR HAND?
YOUR HAND!


MEANIE
THEN...
NO!
WE'RE EVEN SITTING NEXT TO EACH OTHER!
OOOH, COME ON!

WHY IS SHE EVEN CARRYING SOMETHING LIKE THAT...!?
Handcuffs?
WHA?
HOW ABOUT JUST HAND-CUFFS?

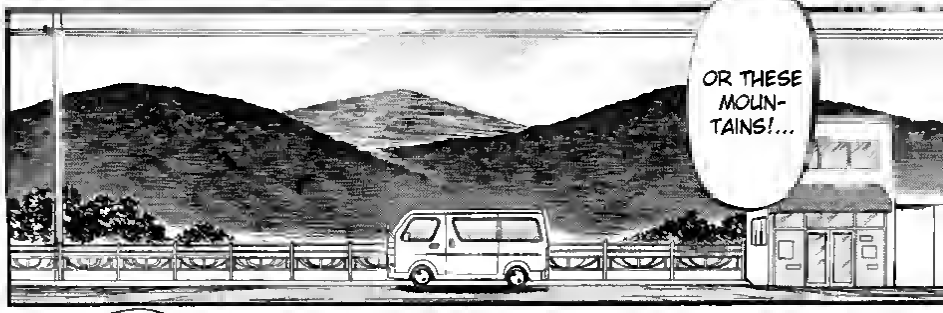
NOOO!
I'VE GOT TWO FOR BOTH OUR HANDS!
.....
OOPS, NOT ME! IT'S THE CURVE!
WHY NOT?
WHAAAT! WHY NOT!?
WHAAAAT!?
JUNKO, THAT'S ENOUGH! IF YOU CAN'T KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF, YOU'RE OFF THE TEAM!
DAMN, IT'S HOT IN HERE!
IT IS NOT! ABSOLUTELY NOT!
WHOO, BOY. IS IT GETTING HOT AND HEAVY IN HERE OR WHAT?

LOOKS LIKE,
WE'RE JUST ABOUT HERE,
15-2
中部横断道
CHUBUDOKAN-EXPWY
南アルプス
Minami-Alps
AH-
AT OUR DESTINATION!
I'M GETTING OFF THE HIGHWAY NOW!
ブロロロ..
ブロロロ..
WE'LL FIND YOUR GRAND-FATHER FOR SURE!
THIS TIME,
ALRI-GHT!
TIME TO GET STARTED!
身延町 梅平

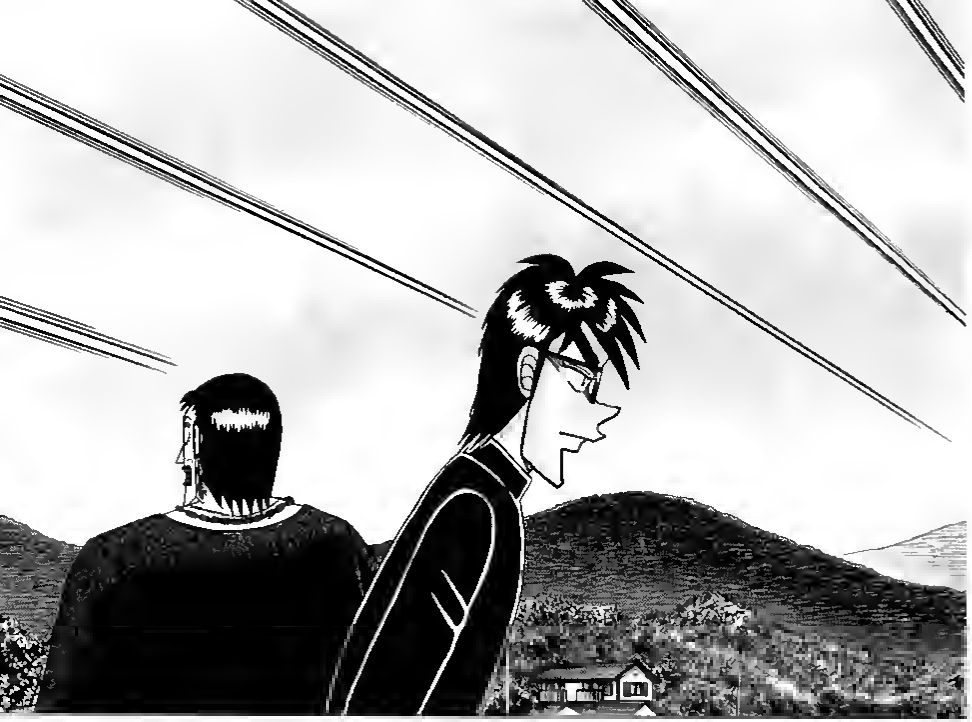


IT'S EITHER HERE,
THE TOWN OF UMEDAIRA!
WELL, THIS IS IT!

AND AKAISHI MOUN-TAINS.
KIJUROU ...

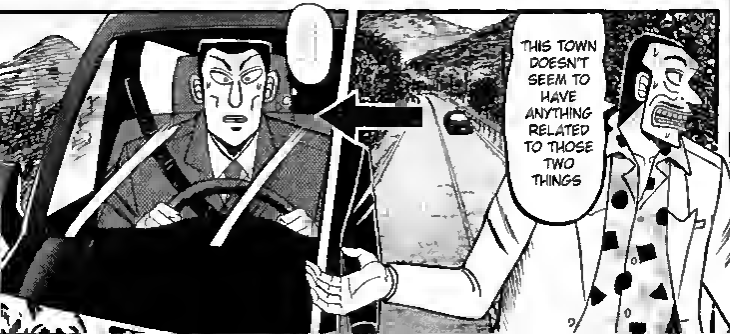

OR THESE MOUN-TAINS!...

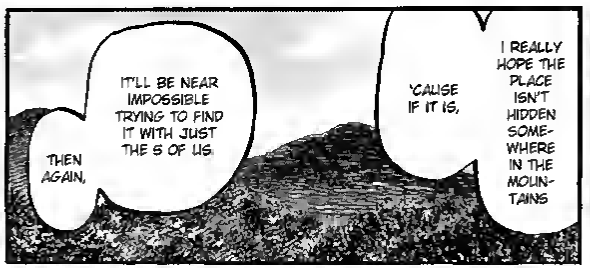
THE MINOBU,

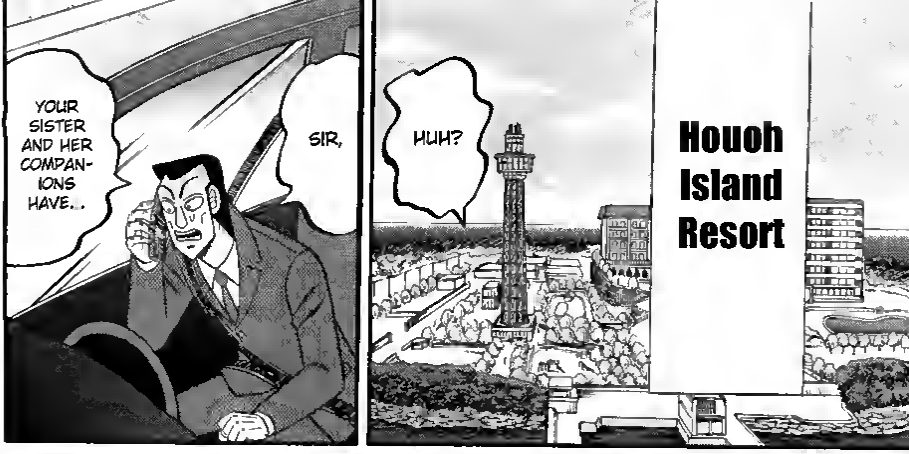


Spring of Confinement,
Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak,
Between the Dragon and Tiger,
Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)

Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠

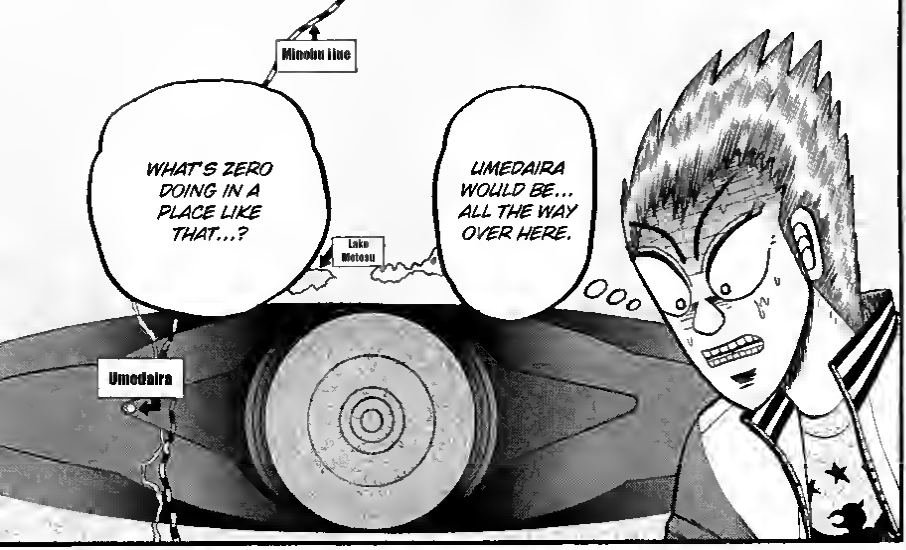


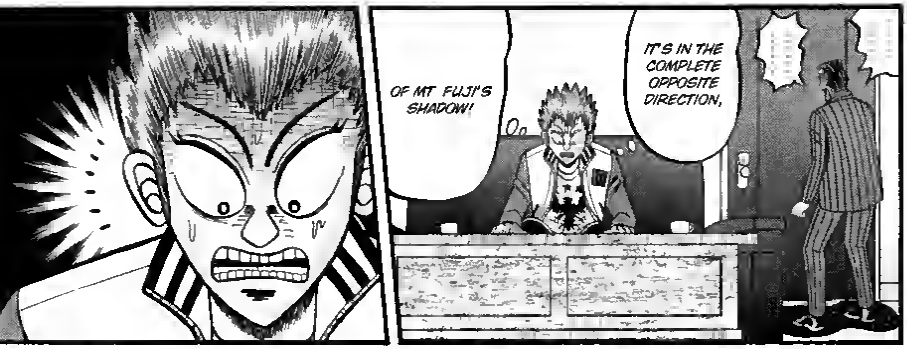

THEN AGAIN,
IT'LL BE NEAR IMPOSSIBLE TRYING TO FIND IT WITH JUST THE 5 OF US
'CAUSE IF IT IS,
I REALLY HOPE THE PLACE ISN'T HIDDEN SOMEWHERE IN THE MOUNTAINS

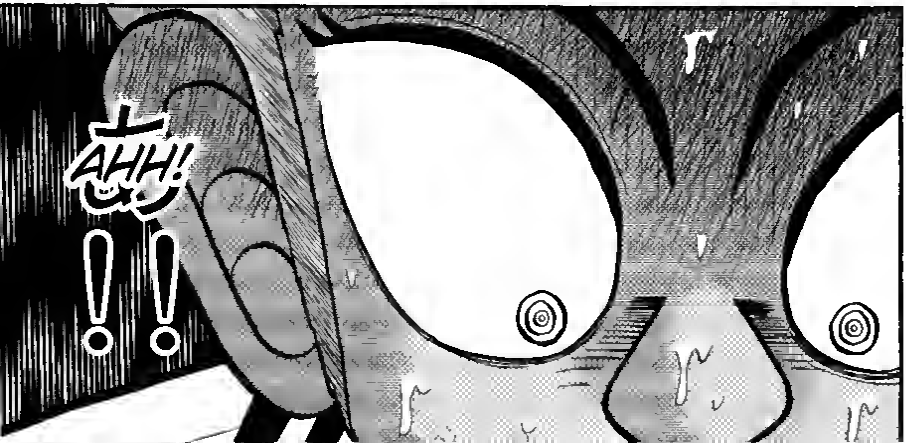

YOUR SISTER AND HER COMPAN-IONS HAVE..
SIR,
HUH?
Houoh Island Resort

YAMA-NASHI PREFEC-TURE!?

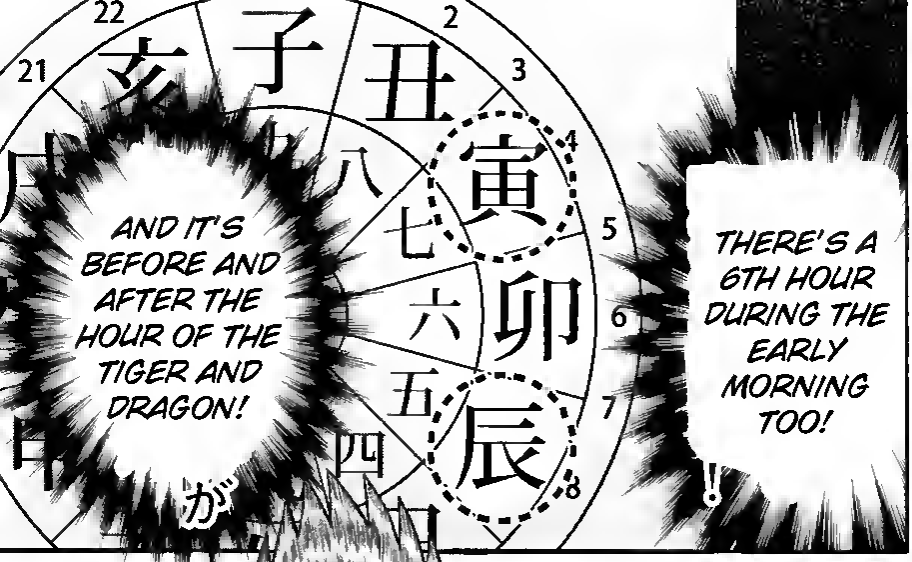
.....
UMEDAIRA?
WHERE IN YAMA-NASHI?


Minobu line
WHAT'S ZERO DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THAT...?
Lake Motosu
UMEDAIRA WOULD BE... ALL THE WAY OVER HERE.
Umedaira


OF MT. FUJI'S SHADOW!
IT'S IN THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.


AHH!

A MOMENT!
HOLD ON,
WAIT!
W..
AHH!
AHH!
AND...
GOOD, I STILL HAVE IT!
LOOK!
L-



Spring of Confinement,
Treasure at Mt. Fuji's Peak,
Between the Dragon and Tiger,
Shadows of 6 Birds (3779)

Before the Cherry Blossoms Fall
忠

THE COUNTER WORD 羽 FOR!
THAT YOU USE,
RABBITS ARE ONE OF THE EXCEPTIONS,
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
SO THAT'S WHAT THAT LINE MEANT!
POPS...

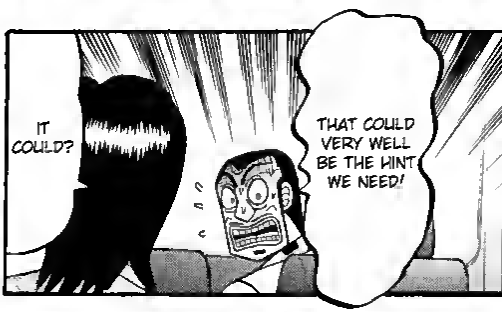
THINKING TOO NAIVELY.
HUH?
YOU WEREN'T THE ONLY ONE,
WHAT IS IT?
LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON...
DAMN IT!
WE HAVE TO GO!
IF WE SPACE OUT HERE ANY LONGER THAN THIS,
THERE'S NOTHING ON THIS ISLAND!
TO YAMA-NASHI!
GO? GO WHERE?
TO THE TREASURE!
THEY'LL BEAT US,

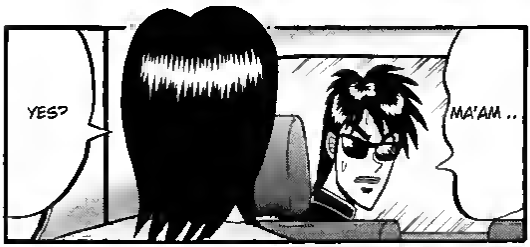
Mean-while
UGH..
WELL, I'M DRIVING AROUND LIKE YOU ASKED ME TO,
BUT I AIN'T SEEING ANYPLACE 'SPECIAL
OH, WHERE SHOULD WE GO..
BUT THIS PLACE SURE DOES TAKE ME BACK
I REMEMBER WALKING HERE WITH MY FATHER OFTEN BACK IN THE DAY

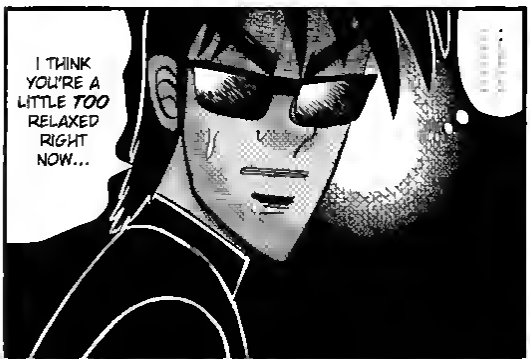
WE'RE WANDERING AROUND WITH NO REAL LEADS RIGHT NOW!
WELL, OF COURSE WE'RE STARTLED!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHY DOES EVERYONE LOOK SO STARTLED?

MA'AM, WHEN EXACTLY WAS THIS!?
W-WITH YOUR FATHER?
HM?

PARDON ME THEN.


IT COULD?
THAT COULD VERY WELL BE THE HINT WE NEED!


YES?
MA'AM ..


I THINK YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO RELAXED RIGHT NOW...

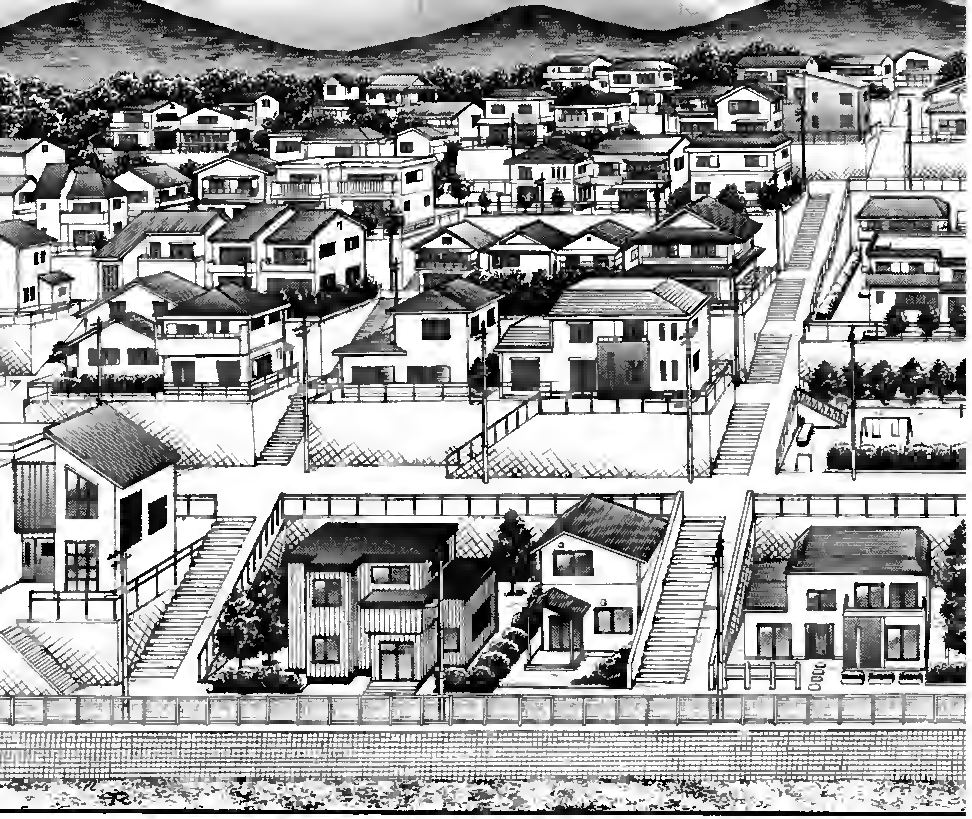
しぽ
お

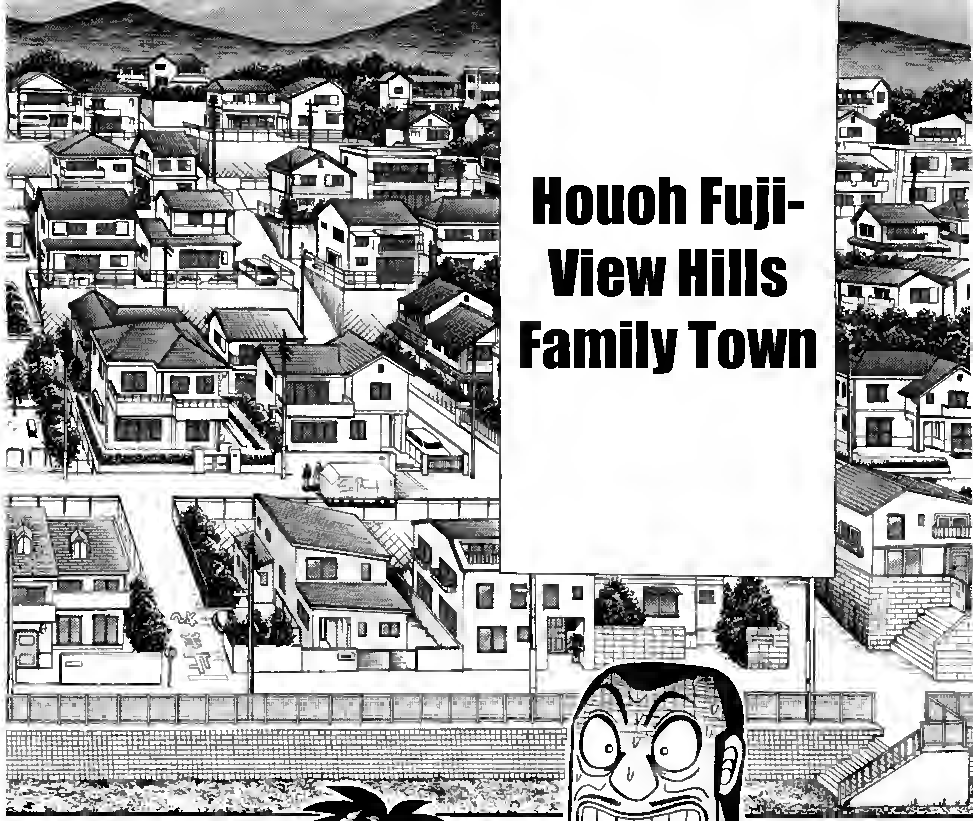
Chapter 52 Memory
SORRY ABOUT NOT TELLING YOU SOONER. I WAS JUST CAUGHT UP IN THE MOMENT.
I-IN ANY CASE...
ARE YOU SURE
THAT IT WAS HERE THAT YOU WALKED WITH YOUR FATHER?
YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE NOT MISTAKEN?
YES, I'M SURE!
100%!
AFTER ALL...

THE HOUOH CORPORATION,
DEVELOPED THE LAND AROUND HERE TO MAKE IT INTO A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.
IN FACT, IT'S CALLED THE HOUOH FUJI VIEW HILLS FAMILY TOWN.
WHAA!?
W... W...
.....
Oo

WELL... I ONLY REMEMBERED JUST NOW!
OH,
ボォー!
HUH?
WHY DIDN'T YOU MENTION THAT EARLIER...!?

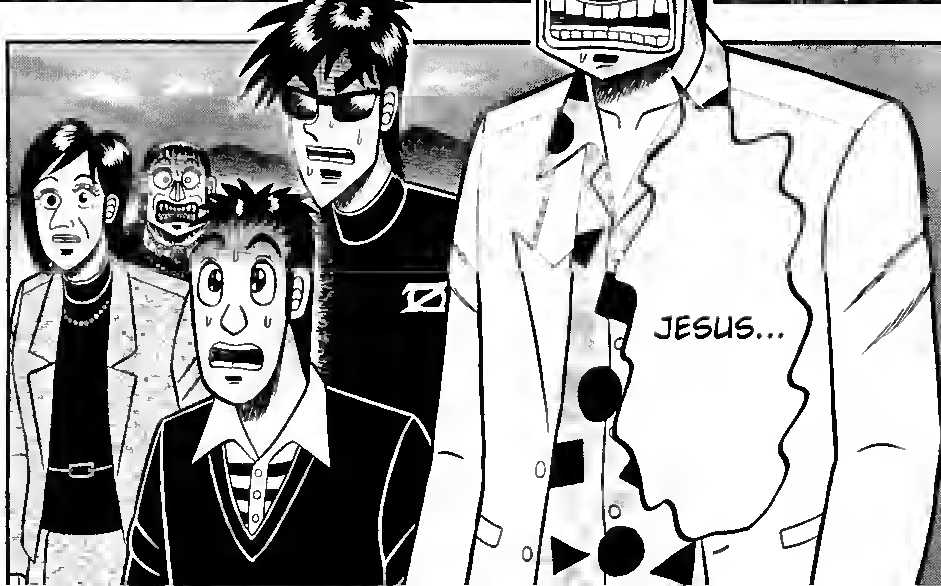
THERE SHE GOES, SPACING OUT AGAIN!
SHE'S STARTING TO PISS ME OFF!
NGHH...
YES... ONLY JUST... NOW...
RIGHT.
R-
LET'S GET GOING.
SUE-ZAKI.
THIS DAMN AIR-HEADED, BIRD-BRAINED, DITZY, FLAKY, B-
WHICH WAY IS WHERE?
OOO..
WHICH WAY IS IT?
ARGHHH!
MA'AM,
.....





Houoh Fuji-
View Hills
Family Town

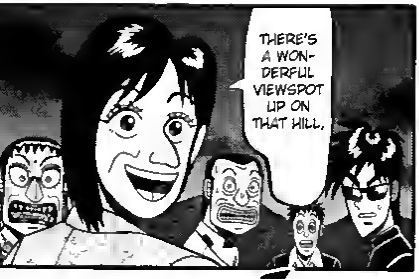
OH REALLY? WHY AM I NOT SURPRISED...
HMM, I'M NOT SURE
TO THE NUMBER 3779 IN THE MESSAGE...
WILL MATCH UP,
MAYBE ONE OF THE ADDRESS NUMBERS AROUND HERE,
HMM.
HOW MANY HOMES ARE THERE HERE?
THIS PLACE IS HUUUGE!



THE ADDRESS NUMBERS ARE ONLY 2 DIGITS LONG
MNN...
41-3
田中
梅平41-3
FOR THE TIME BEING,
MNN ..
THAT COULD BE A HINT...?
ISN'T THERE SOMETHING AROUND HERE,
OK!
OR CHERRY BLOSSOMS
TO THE NUMBER 3779,
ALRIGHT!
FOR ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE RELATED,
WE SHOULD SPLIT UP AND SEARCH ON OUR OWN,

SIGH
HMM
NOTHING, HUH
SO THIS IS THE END OF THE RESI-DENTIAL DISTRICT

THIS PLACE JUST BRINGS BACK SO MANY FOND MEMORIES.
I SEE...
OH YES.
YOU SEEM RATHER LIVELY, MA'AM.
NOTHING HERE EITHER!
ZERO, I GOT NOTHING!
I CAN'T FIND A SINGLE THING THAT COULD BE A HINT...
IS QUITE A SIGHT,
THE TOWN HERE LIT UP AT NIGHT,
OH, DID YOU KNOW?
MAYBE WE SHOULD CALL IT A DAY.
IT'LL BE DARK SOON.
AND IT'S EVEN LOVELIER IF YOU SEE IT FROM A LITTLE FARTHER AWAY!


THERE'S A WONDERFUL VIEWSPOT UP ON THAT HILL,

OH,
WHAT DO YOU EXACTLY MEAN BY THAT?
MA'AM...

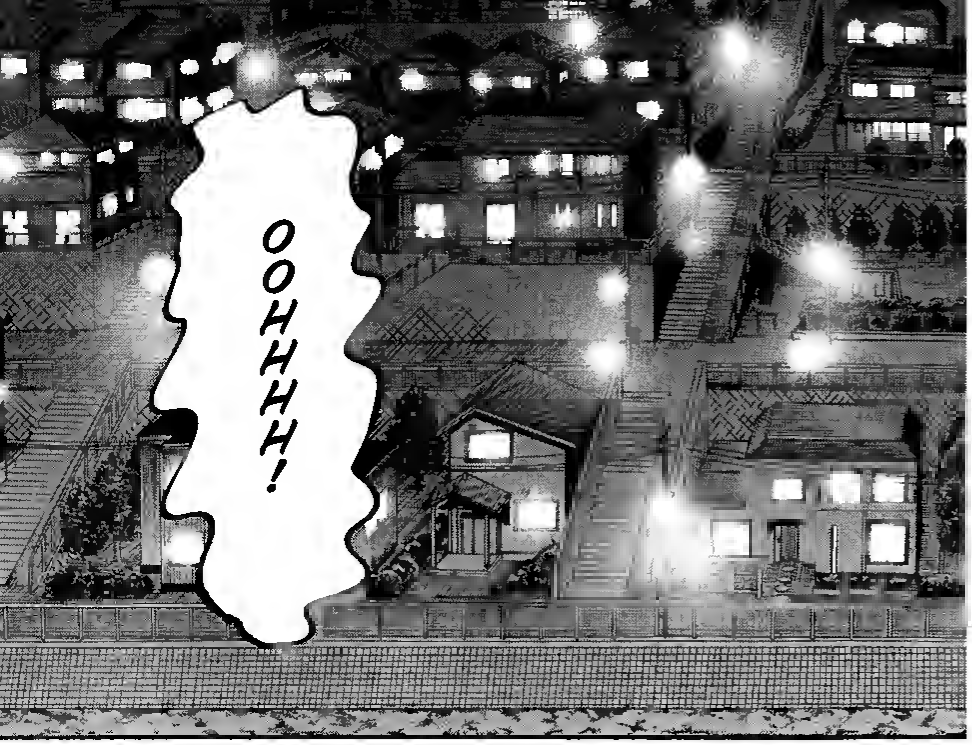
ガヤヤ
CALLED "KIJUROU'S CHAIR!"

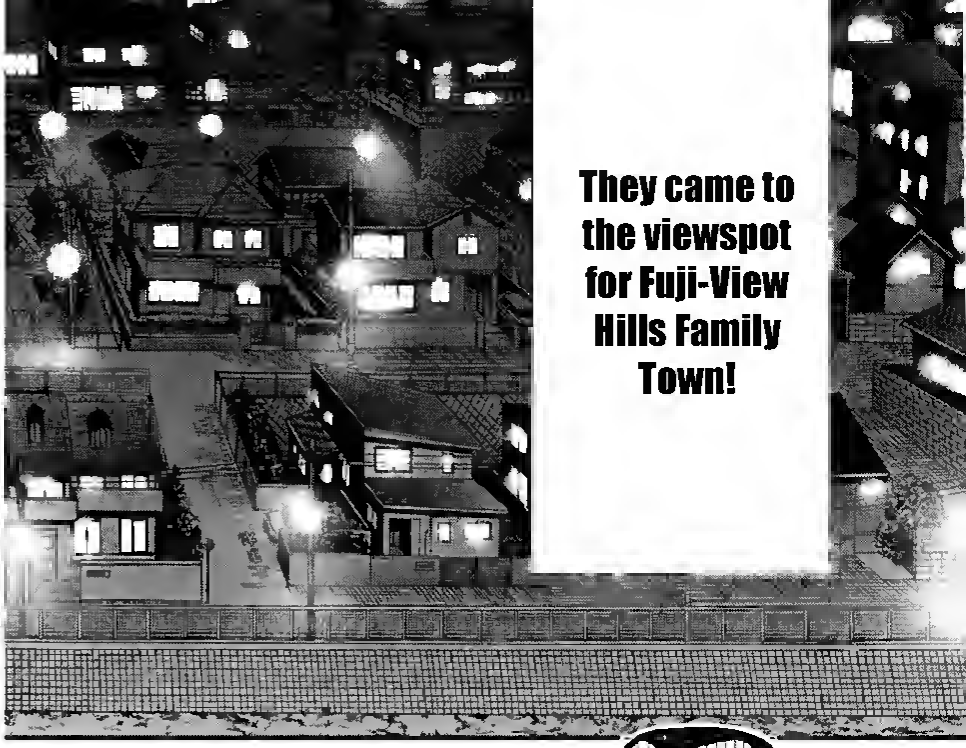
MA'AM!
THAT'S ANOTHER CRUCIAL PIECE OF INFORMATION YOU COULD'VE TOLD US EARLIER!
WHY!?
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US,
AND SAVE US FROM WASTING OUR TIME BY WANDERING ALL OVER TOWN!
OH,
I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT.
BUT YOU SEE,
I ONLY JUST REMEMBERED!
ぽぉ～～
ウフ
JUST NOW, AS I WAS DANCING ...
クル
クル
クル
NGHH!
THIS...

STUPID DITZ!
うううう…
OH MY, IS YOUR STOMACH ACHING?
...WHAT A DITZ.

うううう
BEFORE THAT,
WE SHOULD FIND A PLACE TO STAY FOR THE NIGHT THEN.
PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE OF THE COLD WEATHER.

And a brief hike...
After taking a short drive,
WOULD YOU MIND SHOWING ME TO KIJUROU'S CHAIR?


OOHHH!


They came to the viewspot for Fuji-View Hills Family Town!

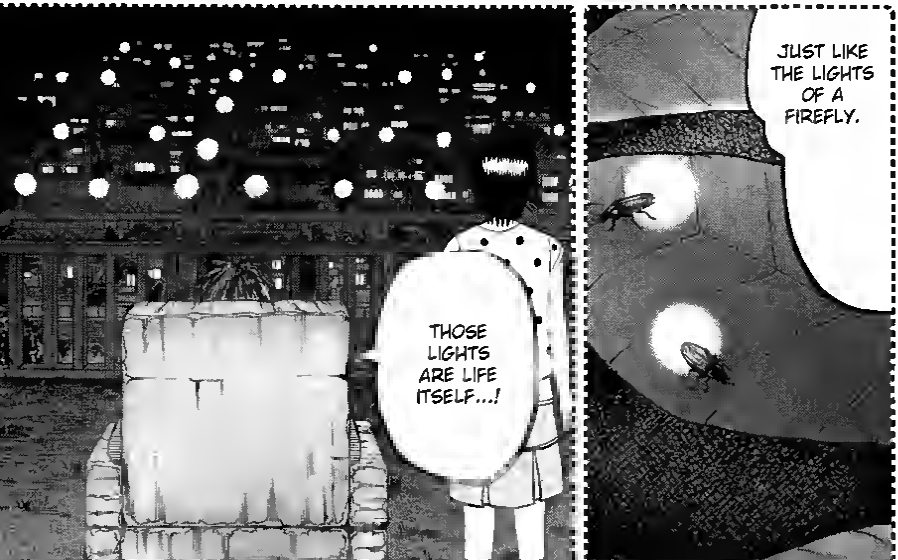
MY FATHER USED TO SIT HERE,
AS WE GAZED AT THE TOWN,
WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL.
THIS IS KIJUROU'S CHAIR.
DURING NIGHT-TIME.

IT'S ALMOST AS IF,
YOU CAN SEE THE WHOLE TOWN!
IT IS,
ISN'T IT?
THE TOWN IS FACING THIS WAY!
WHAT A VIEW!

THE VIEW IS STILL JUST AS I HAD REMEMBERED!
WOW, IT'S SO PRETTY!
HAHA,
IT IS, ISN'T IT?
YOU CAN SEE LIGHTS ON HOTELS,
BRIDGES,
Ttowers,
BUT YOU KNOW, SAWAKO...
AND OTHER THINGS IN THE CITY,
I THINK...
THE LIGHTS OF THESE HOMES ARE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL OUT OF THEM ALL.
MNN...
WHY SO?
JUST IMAGINE...

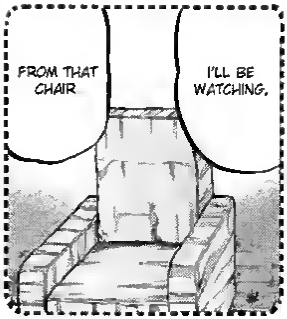
HAPPI-
NESS,
ANGER, SADNESS,
DESPAIR
BENEATH
THOSE
LIGHTS
PEOPLES
LIVES ARE
UNFOLDING.

THE LIGHTS
YOU SEE
INSIDE
THOSE
HOMES,
ARE ALL
GOING ABOUT
THEIR OWN
SEPARATE
BUSINESS,
IN OTHER
WORDS,
THOSE
LIGHTS ARE
ALIVE...

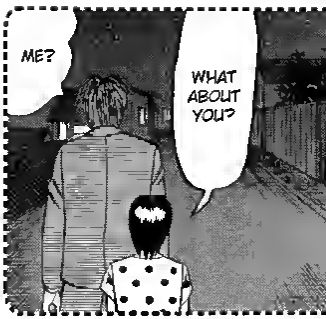

THOSE
LIGHTS
ARE LIFE
ITSELF...!
JUST LIKE
THE LIGHTS
OF A
FIREFLY.

SAWAKO...
HUH?
DOESN'T ONLY REFER TO FUN THINGS
HAPPINESS
SADNESS CAN ALSO BE HAPPINESS.
?
SADNESS IS ALSO A PART OF HAPPINESS.
YES.
SADNESS?

THERE ARE HAPPY TIMES,
WHEN YOU FEEL SAD.
SEEING YOUR KIDS ENTER SCHOOL,
GRADU-ATE,
祝 入学式
BECOME INDEPEN-DENT.
GET MARRIED.
AND,
GET OLDER, YEAR BY YEAR.
ONE DAY...
YOU AND YOUR BROTHER
MAYBE WITH YOUR CHILDREN
IF YOU HAVE ANY AT THAT TIME,
WILL COME HERE AGAIN.


FROM THAT CHAIR
I'LL BE WATCHING.

WHEN THAT TIME COMES,
HAHA...


ME?
WHAT ABOUT YOU?

HAHA.
STOP IT!
YOU'RE BEING WEIRD, DAD!

.....

I SEE...
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.

I ASSUME,
HE ONLY SAID ALL THAT TO YOU WHEN YOU WERE HERE, CORRECT ..?
HM?
W...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I STILL DON'T FULLY UNDER-STAND.
BUT I JUST KNOW,
THIS IS ALL CON-NECTED.
THE CODED-MESSAGE ..
FOR INSTANCE,
THE 3779...!

FINAL CONNEC-TION!
MAKE THAT,
BUT I JUST CAN'T
MY INSTINCTS TELL ME WE'RE VERY CLOSE TO SOLVING THE PUZZLE,
YOU MEAN HE WAS REFER-RING TO THIS?
JUST WHAT IS IT YOU WANT TO SHOW US?
AS DIFFICULT AS EVER, AREN'T YOU, KIJUROU...
DAMN IT!
WHAT, DID YOU INTEND TO DO HERE...?
WHAT!?
17巻につづく
TRANSLATED BY HOX

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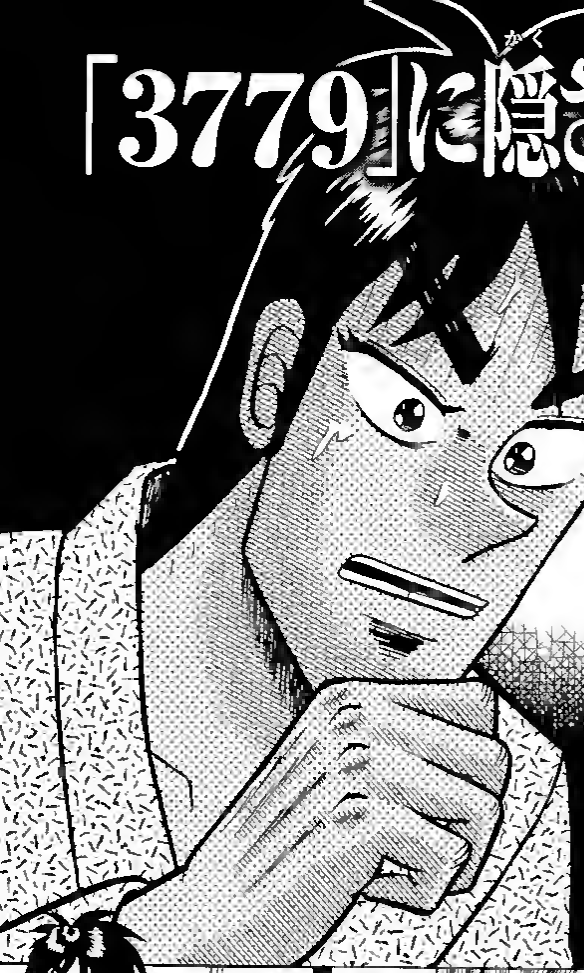
「3779」に隠された真意とは!?



零、解

謎の先にさ

賭博覇王伝 ゼロ ギャン鬼編 零 GYANKI ZERO

ついに

読なるか!?

らなる謎! 新たな暗号登場!?

第7巻2013年"春"ごろ発売予定!!!!!!!!!